



*Loebner Magnolia, May 15, 2019. Photo: Hannah Legault*

## Blossom Report

You may have recently seen the bountiful blossoms of our Loebner Magnolia trees on the Arbo's social media, where we are carefully documenting their progression. The specimen by the main trail has begun to lose some of its petals, but on the one near the back of the collection, the progress is slightly delayed and there are still blossoms abound. The Amelanchier flowers are out, and the next trees to bloom will be the Canada Plum and Chinese Pear, in addition to the Saucer Magnolia shrub. These are just some of the species in a long line of blooms that we will be observing as spring unfolds.

### **Here is our suggestion of how to best enjoy all of these incredible spring blossoms:**

Start out walking through the maple grove by taking the Orange Trail counter-clockwise towards Blossom Corner to see the latest blooms. Continue on the Orange Trail, or better yet, take the Canada 150 Trail northward to visit the lovely Garden of native shrubs. As you approach Maple Corner, after walking along the Branchery Field, turn left to take the Yellow Trail. Follow the signage southward as you go through a diverse mature forest where you will find a number of spring ephemerals, including a carpet of White trillium. If you don't already have a copy of our free flyer describing the spring flowers of the maple grove understory, ask for one at the Gatehouse.



*Bird: Great Crested Flycatcher Photos: Hannah Legault*

## Bird Walk Review

Brrrrr! (says the Pileated Woodpecker... and everyone who attended this tour!) A group of around 30 braved the frosty morning temperatures to join seasoned birder Betsy McFarlane on Saturday May 11, Migratory Bird International Day. Forty-four species were observed (an increase of 17 species in just over one week since the last bird tour). The stars of the day included a Great Crested Flycatcher and two very bold Rose-breasted Grosbeaks. Several Yellow-rumped Warblers, the species featured on the event advertisements, were seen as well. Although it was a bit chilly, participants exchanged useful tips and anecdotes, including a comparison of birding field guides and apps. Check out the latest issue of [The Leaflet](#) to see the Arboretum's recommendations for birding resources.



*Broadleaf Springbeauty*



*Hobblebush*



*Photos : Hannah Legault*



*Jack-in-the-pulpit*

## Forest Spring Flowers Review

Immediately following the Spring Bird Walk on May 11, Biologist Robert Prairie met a group of around 20 people who came to enjoy a tour of the spring ephemerals. Thankfully, the day warmed up, and the group was treated to a nice dose of sunshine! We saw many of the blooms featured in the [Woodland Blooms Brochure](#), plus elderberry, gooseberry and Hobblebush.

There is still time to visit the forest and enjoy the spring ephemerals – just remember, their name says it all, so don't wait too long!





*Photo : Hannah Legault*

## Mother's Day Recap

We want to say a big thank-you to the many people who made Mother's Day a success. Robert Prairie's spring ephemerals trail became the official Mother's Day trail on Sunday, May 12, when the Arboretum granted free access to all mothers for the day. Communications Assistant Hannah highlighted the route on the trail maps, and our Gatekeeper Elisa folded and distributed many [Woodland Blooms Brochures](#) to ensure guests and members alike experienced of the Spring Ephemerals to their fullest. We hope you all enjoyed the memories you created on Mother's Day this year! Thank you for spending it with us!

## Reminder for perennial divisions

We are still hoping to receive some perennial divisions from all those hard at work in their gardens at this time. The bunches can be brought to the Gatehouse during regular opening hours.

## Reminder about ticks

To protect yourself and your dog from tick bites, please follow the precautions listed in our [tick guide](#). For additional information or to report a tick, visit [etick.ca](http://etick.ca).



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