



Watch Spring Bloom

It is spring and Virginia's gardens and woods are waking up after a long winter. Create a photo record of a plant in your yard waking up.

- Select a tree or bush with a branch you have easy access to. If you have daffodils or other bulbs that have yet bloomed will also make a great photo record. You will need to use the camera app on your phone or a digital camera for this activity.
- Once you have selected the plant for your photo study, choose an easily accessible branch that you can easily and frequently photo. You will want to take each picture from the same angle so mark where your feet will stand. You can mark your spot using stones or with some type of flagging.
- Check the weather, plants will bloom quicker when we have a series of warm days and nights.
- Make your plan:
 - Take a photo once a day at the exact same time
 - Take a series of photos each day over several day. You may want to take pictures at the top of the hour or every other hour during the day.
- Carefully line up the shot to take a series of photos until the leaf or flower has fully formed.
- Download the photos to your computer. Using power point or another similar program create a presentation showing the bud blooming from beginning to end.
- Share your presentation with others.

Using photos to measure change over time or Photo Point Monitoring has been around since the invention of cameras. Scientists use photos to document movement of glaciers, growth of forests and crops and changes to the landscape. Learn more on how to set up a [Photo Point Monitoring](#) site to record changes over time.

