

Have you seen a...

Spring Azure

What Does this Species Look Like?

Size: Wingspan of a little under or over 1 inch

Color: Bright pale blue above, off-white below with small, black spots

General: Females have wide, black margins on all 4 wings and a row of spots on the hind wings

Usually Found: Deciduous woods, old fields, gardens, wooded freshwater marshes and swamps



Did You Know?

- The Spring Azure (*Celastrina ladon*) is also known as the American holly azure, dogwood azure, Edward's azure, northern spring azure, and the purple azure.
- This butterfly appears in the early spring and has a high tolerance for cold temperatures.
- Adult spring azures can survive being buried in snow!
- They appear in every state, except Hawaii.
- In parts of America the phenology of this butterfly has already started to change. One possible explanation is climate change.

What am I Observing?

The timing (date) of:

- The first appearance of an adult butterfly
- The first time a butterfly is seen visiting flowers

Want to Find Out More?

Contact Diane Husic, Audubon *TogetherGreen* Fellow,
phenology@lgnc.org

Why Collect this Data?

This species is being monitored as a part of the Eastern PA Phenology Program to determine if this insect is impacted by environmental changes.

How Do I Report this Data?

Observations can be reported as comments to the Eastern PA Phenology Blog:
<http://watchingtheseasons.blogspot.com/>
or sent to phenology@lgnc.org

What is Phenology? According to the National Phenology Network, phenology refers to the study of "recurring plant and animal life cycle stages, or phenophases, such as leafing and flowering, maturation of agricultural plants, emergence of insects, and migration of birds."

(www.usanpn.org)