

What Does this Species Look Like?

Size: Large shrub or small tree 6-50 feet tall

Color: Green leaves; white flowers; red, dark purple, or black berries

General: Flowers have five white petals with a green center

Usually Found: In moist areas such as woodland borders, swamps, bogs, along streams



Did You Know?

- The serviceberry (*Amelanchier sp.*) is also known as the shadbush, shadblow, shadrun, and juneberry.
- The name “serviceberry” derives from a time when people would wait until the winter thaw was over to conduct funeral services. The appearance of the flowering serviceberry signaled that the ground was soft enough to dig a grave.
- The serviceberry blooms every spring at the same time the shad, a migratory fish, travels from the Atlantic Ocean to the Delaware River; thus the name “shadbush”.
- The sweet and juicy fruit of the plant is edible and can be made into pie, sweetbread, jam, and wine.

What am I Observing?

The timing (date of):

- The emergence of flowers
- The emergence of leaves
- The appearance of ripe fruits

Why Collect this Data?

This species is being monitored as a part of the Eastern PA Phenology Program to determine if this plant 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

Want to Find Out More?

Contact Diane Husic, Audubon *TogetherGreen* Fellow,
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)