January: animal tracks in the snow, and animals that don’t hibernate for winter. Dwarf Conifer Collection at the Billy Goat Path, and evergreens all over.

February: admire beautiful bark no longer hidden by foliage, as well as the winter beauty of witch hazel (Probst & Formal Gardens)

Early March: early spring ephemeral flowers (come every week to see the ever-changing display of spring ephemerals—as the name suggests, they don’t last long!)

March: daffodils all over, and in late March/early April cherry blossoms and early species of Magnolias are blossoming.

Late April/Early May: peak spring bird migration

May: Dogwood and Buckeye trees are flowering in the gardens and on the trails, and Magnolia blossoms are in full swing.

June: look out for turtles, since June is an ideal time to spot these slow-moving reptiles crossing your path!

July: spot dragonflies and swallowtail butterflies on the lawn, along with caterpillars on plants and monarch butterflies on milkweed (but look, don’t touch!)

August: the Crape Myrtles are full of color, and there are plenty of spots to escape the sun in the Shady Garden.

Early September: our largest native fruit, the Paw Paw, is on the tree, and royal colors of purple and gold grow side by side on the trails in the form of goldenrods and asters.

Late September/October: Crabapples are fruiting, and huge dahlias are in bloom in front of the Nature Education Center.

Late October: fall foliage is in full swing, with the Japanese Maples—a particular showstopper.

November: a wonderful time to spot mushrooms, and all sorts of dazzling fungi along the trails (collecting or foraging is not allowed in the park, but photos are welcome!)

December: late in the year is still on time for bright winter berries, like Beautyberry, Holly, Ilex, and Juniper.