

How is climate change affecting the mountains? Let's find out!

Join AMC's Mountain Watch and become a Citizen Scientist

Mountain Watch is AMC's long-term monitoring program tracking plant response to climate change. Since 2004 the AMC has been monitoring the timing of plant seasonal events like flowering in conjunction with weather conditions (aka study of phenology). From day one of this project we've relied on the help of hikers to tell us what they've seen along the trails. By volunteering just a few minutes of a hike to observe and record some of the plants along the way, our citizen scientists have added thousands of data points to the research of climate change in mountains. Want to help? It's easier than ever with a mobile device and the iNaturalist app!



iNaturalist: AMC is teaming up with iNaturalist to document flowering and fruiting plants seen on hikes (please stay on the trail). iNaturalist is a project which crowdsources plant and animal observations through a free app on your phone or tablet and makes contributing to ecological research as easy as taking a picture. With iNaturalist you can help monitor plants everywhere from the summit of Mt Washington to your own back yard and then share that data with over 211,000 plus fellow observers. So grab some trail mix, your back pack, and your phone and take a hike! Here are the steps you need to take to participate:

Download the iNaturalist app and register

If you don't have a chance to do this before you hit the trail, you can always do it once you are back and reviewing all the beautiful flower photos from your hike!

Turn on location in your mobile if you have turned it off previously

This ensures your photos are dated and "geo-tagged" so when you upload it to iNaturalist the photo brings that data along.

Take photos of flowers especially our most wanted plants (see back)

Take a photo of the whole plant if possible and a close up of flowers or fruit. You can take photos while in the iNaturalist app but any photo you have captured just in camera mode can be uploaded at a later time, even previous years photos.

Join our iNaturalist project

By joining our project in iNaturalist "*Flowers and Fauna of the White Mountain National Forest*" you can streamline your contribution to AMC's research and get updates on the project through the Journal posts. Observations not posted to our project are still accessible for research so snap away!

Check back in on your iNaturalist submissions and learn more

iNaturalist has built identification technology and plenty of fellow naturalists who can help confirm a species and move your observation to "Research Grade". This allows AMC's scientist and other researchers to use it in our work.

Keep it up!

The more photos we take the more we can learn about flowering and fruiting times and the impact of climate change.



Diapensia lapponica

-Allison Bell

Most Wanted Mountain Flowers

Here's a selection of some of the flowering plants to photograph on your hike.

Forest Species



Painted Trillium

Trillium undulatum



Red Trillium

Trillium erectum



Bluebead Lily

Clintonia borealis



Canada
Mayflower

*Maianthemum
canadense*

Alpine Species

Diapensia

Diapensia lapponica



Labrador Tea

*Rhododendron
groenlandicum*



Mountain Avens

Geum peckii
Only found in the
White Mountains, NH
and in Nova Scotia



Alpine Bilberry

Vaccinium uliginosum

