

2007 LLCC Phenology:

12.20.07

10:00 am One blue jay on feeder; it has been awhile since one was seen there.

12.18.07

7:50 am Ten pine and three evening grosbeaks at dining hall feeder.

12.16.07

All Day Ice rime coats all trees.

12.06.07

Morning A bit more snowfall - less than half inch.

12.05.07

10:00 am Eagle perched on a tree branch hanging over Highway 169/210- drove right under him.

10:00 am John F. saw a Snowy Owl perched on a fence.

Evening Four deer (2 doe & 2 fawn) in the Director's yard.

12.04.07

1:00 pm A lot of Pine Grosbeaks at LLCC.

All Day 6-7 inches of new snow.

12.03.07

10:30 am Large eagle in a tree on County Rd 88 and a large eagle in a tree along Highway 169.

12.02.07

Approximately 7.5 inches of snowfall.

11.27.07

7:30 am First below zero temp: -2 degrees Fahrenheit (254 degrees Kelvin)

11.26.07

7:00 am Temp is -5 below zero according to the outside thermometer in my car.

11.20.07

7:00 am Two cottontails on my deck this morning.

11.15.07

10:00 am. Eagle sitting in a field near Long Lake.

1:50 pm. Four ravens perform acrobatics over orienteering field.

3:05 pm. Four V's of snow geese flying east over Long Lake.

11.13.07

3:30 pm. Three whitetail deer down by Long Lake.

11.12.07

Morning. Shrike on fencepost on County 5 near Fleming Church.

11.9.07

Early AM First real snowfall - about 3/4". Ground is white and roads slippery. Part of Long Lake is covered in white on top of the very thin ice. The snow is just fine for snowballs and snow men.

Morning. A red fox spotted on County 88.

6:30 am. Two red fox playing in the woods by Fleming Lake (NW).

11.7.07

11:00 am At least 7 Evening Grosbeaks at the feeder at LLCC.

11.5.07

9:45 am Young porcupine on east edge of pine plantations. Snow flurries.

Evening Male cardinal at bird feeder in Palisade.

11.3.07

Morning About 10 Pine Grosbeaks at my feeder at Fleming Lake . Male Cardinal trying to squeeze in also.

11.1.07

2:30 pm Male cardinal at my feeder at Fleming Lake.

10.31.07

2:00 pm Red bellied Woody at feeder at LLCC

10.30.07

High 68 degrees. Sunny with light wind.

1:30 pm Redhead woody on suet, also evening grossbeaks are back.

Afternoon. Gray jays are back.

10.28.07

Afternoon. Scaup, hooded-mergausers, blue-wing teal, possible ring neck duck on Lake in front of office.

10.27.07

Afternoon Male cardinal: black phase , grey squirrel at Bird feeder.

10.26.07

Morning 2 otters feeding in the NW corner of Long Lake.

Afternoon Male cardinal: black phase , Grey squirrell at bird feeder.

10.22.07

All Day Sunny, sunny, sunny - after 29 days of no sun!

10.18.09

All Day Rain, Rain, Rain, ...

10.14.07

Morning Frost on the roof and windshield.

10.10.07

Morning 50 large Canada Geese on Long Lake.

10.9.07

All Day Gold - Rainy, windy, high of 46 degrees. 2 inches snow in International Falls.

10.8.07

All Day Lots of woodticks (LOTS)

10.6.07

1:00 pm A Coopers Hawk was sitting on Pat's Driveway.

10.4.070-010.5.07

All day LLCC received 2.03 inches of rain.

10.2.07

AM One mature and two immature bald eagles having "breakfast" along county road 5 north of LLCC.

9.24.07

All Day. An Eagle was spotted again at LLCC; possibly from a new nest on Town Line Road.

9.20.07

All Day. Thunderstorms all day.

9.17.07

Morning. LLCC received .80 inches of badly needed rainfall.

9.14.07

5:30 am. Flurries falling!!

9.12.07

Morning. First frost. Windshields needed scraping.

7:20 am. Black bear spotted near rice river.

4:45 pm. Eleven Vultures fly over and over Long Lake (must be a missing camper?!?)

9.10.07

4:37 pm Huge bald eagle feeding on Hwy 5.

7:20 pm Three sandhill cranes feeding on the flats (hwy 169).

9.7.07

4:45 pm 15+ wild turkeys by Meagan's house.

9.6.07

Day 1.66 inches of rain fell!!

9.4.07

Day Red maples around Long Lake are turning bright red/orange.

9.3.07

Day Baby loon on Hill Lake as big as it's mother is.

Eve Cardinal family at birdbath every night & 2 little brown bats inside at Meagan's.

9.1.07

Afternoon Hummingbird got bill stuck in window screen at Pat's.

8.29.07

Afternoon Small groups of broadwinged hawks migrating through.

5:10 pm Yearling black bear crosses Hwy 210 west of Gun Lake Road.

8.28.07

7:10 am Immature Cooper's hawk chasing juvenile blue jays in Meagan's yard.

8.27.07

Evening 20-30 Nighthawks flying through at Pat's home. Tamaracks started to turn.

8.15.07

All day. Large leafed asters in full bloom.

8.14.07

5:50 pm Doe with fawn along County 5 near LLCC.

8.13.07

7:20 am All 3 Osprey coming and going from nest on Hwy 169.

8.12.07

4:10 pm Woodchuck feeding by school house.

Evening/Overnight Newly fledged blue jays at Meagan's house. Persied meteor shower fantastic!

6:45 pm Wolf spotted by Hill River on Hwy 169.

8.2.07

5:45-6:00 am Busy morning for families: doe with 2 fawns on Hwy 3, doe with 2 fawns on Hwy 5, racoon with 4 babies on Hwy 5, doe with 2 fawns standing by the front gate of LLCC. Maybe it was the full moon?

6:00 am Doe with 2 fawns on LLCC road (possibly the same family as seen in the previous entry?)

7.24.07

6:30 am Two fawns on the road by the Orienteering Field.

7.23.07

Morning Record dew point of 81° in western Minnesota.

7.15.07

8:00 am Young Green Heron in a tree in my front yard at Fleming Lake. Stayed for quite some time.

7.12.07

Daytime Fawn came out of wetland behind the energy center.

7.11.07

Evening Heavy rainstorm .25 inch, baby bird explosion – orioles, finches & redwings. Male Indigo Bunting at Meagan's house.

7.10.07

Morning Maples near dorm are starting to turn (stress).

3:30 pm Male Indigo Bunting on the archery field.

7:20 pm Meadowlark on wires at Hwy 210 and 169 intersection.

7.8.07

Morning. Hen Woodcock spotted with 10 new ducklings (late hatch) near McGregor.

Afternoon. A cuckoo was on a back road near Aitkin.

6.29.07

5:50 am Fox on side of Highway 5; also a doe with twin fawns in same area.

6.28.07

2:45 pm Pair of fawns at Highway 5 and Highway 232.

6.26.07

5:35 am Pair of fawns at Hwy 169 & Hwy 3.

6.24.07

10:00 am Ruffed grouse with fledged little ones seen at Deerwood (Larson Lake Trails).

6.20.07

Several days. Dining Hall nest of Downy Woodpeckers fledged this week.

6.18.07

7:00 am. Young fox sitting along side of road at Fleming Cemetery. Ran into culvert to hide.
Deer standing on County Rd 88 just outside LLCC.

Morning .7 inch rain, sticky and warm morning. Cool with no humidity overnight, low 53. Feels great after 5 days of over 85+ degrees.

6.14.07

5:40 pm. Baby skunks on County Road 28.

7:45 pm. Yellow-headed blackbird spotted by the "big fish" in Garrison.

6.12.07

7:20 am. Osprey feeding young on Hwy 169 nest.

Afternoon. Blue Flag Iris blooming around the lake.

6.11.07

Morning. A yellow-headed blackbird on 391st Lane, north of Aitkin.

6.07.07

Morning. Monarch eggs on milkweed plants.

Afternoon. Strong storm system moves through. 20-30 mph winds, 40-50 mph gusts. Highs in mid-80's, with 70 degree dew points.

6.06.07

Very large flock of geese fly over Fleming Lake.

6.4.07

5:50 am Doe and fawn in field on Highway 5. Also a Red Fox.

7:00 pm Snapping turtle laying eggs on road to schoolhouse.

6.3.07

3:00 pm Fawn in fall grass along dirt road by Chris' house, very small, only 10 feet away. Holly and Chris spooked the mom.

6.2.07

All day. Painted turtles traveling from the pond to the sandy driveway to lay eggs. A couple were detoured by my dogs as they brought them in the house to play with. They were quickly returned to their journey.

5.28.07

Morning Spring Azure Butterflies! "lots" .. like 100+ at Chris' house.

Afternoon. Bobolink calling in Meagan's yard.

Evening. Lightning bugs dancing on the wind.

Evening. A doe and new fawn were in the field behind Pat's house. A phoebe is feeding young in the doorway nest by the Marcum House room #8.

5.26.07

Afternoon. Monarchs on milkweed at Carol's house by Fleming Lake.

Evening. Bald Eagle hanging around now for several days. Landed on deck and swoops over bird feeder at home at Fleming Lake.

5.22.07

1:00 pm. Monarchs are back! Seen at LLCC and at Chris' house too.

4:35 pm. Four hummingbirds fight over feeder at Chris' house.

5.17.07

Afternoon. Bog laurel starting to bloom, marsh marigolds on the way out.

5.15.07

5:45 pm. Red-bellied woodpecker at Chris' feeder in Aitkin County.

5.13.07

8:30 pm. Pair of Great Horned Owls spotted on 427th Street by Fleming Lake.

5.11.07

Early morning. Rose-breasted Grosbeak at Director's bird feeder.

Mid-morning. Two drakes and hen Mallard feeding in Director's yard.

Day. Woodchuck returns to apartment rocks to make a home.

5.10.07

5:35 am Skunk family out for a morning walk along Highway 5.

7:30 am Large mix of birds at my feeder at Fleming Lake. Bluejays, Red-winged Blackbirds, Gold finches, Purple Finches, Juncos, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Chickadees, and others. Bluejays were dominating.

Evening. Oriole at Director's feeder.

5.9.07

All Day. 2 Canada Geese and 2 goslings on Long Lake. Aspen "fuzz" blowings in the wind (Female catkins seeds tufted with hairs).

12:05 am. Muskrat in the reeds and beaver splashing in Long Lake.

8:30 pm. Loon calling on Long Lake.

5.8.07

3:00 pm. Baby toad, wood frog, and mink frog on CCC.

5.7.07

6:30 pm. Rose breasted grosbeaks - male and female at LLCC.

5.3.07

All Day. Bloodroot, wild ginger, and wild plums all in bloom.

1:00 pm Male Rose-breasted Grosbeak spotted.

5.2.07

3:00 pm Two-legged painted turtle spotted during canoeing.

Morning. Bird's egg found fallen on ground at Pat's house. (not identified)

5.1.07

All Day. Dandelions out, marsh marigolds and leatherleaf blooming in the bog.

10.00 pm. Beavers very active on lake. Almost hit one with the canoe. Loons calling.

4.30.07

4:00 pm Grey frogs & wood thrushes calling on CCC. Dragonflies in bog.

4.28-29.07

Busy weekend in N. Aitkin County: Hummingbird; Dragonfly; Wolly Bearcat; Maple tree full flowering; Quaking Aspen Catkins are in distending; Hepaticas; Swamp Marigolds; Trillium in bloom; my first mosquito.

4.26.07

7:00 am. Four Bluejays at my feeder at Fleming Lake.

4:00 pm Two Barred Owls calling.

4:30 pm Fisher chased a pair of Mallards during canoeing. Tons of turtles & millions of mosquito larve.

4.25.07

9:15 am Family of Red Fox in our driveway at Fleming Lake - 2 adults and 2 kits.

4.23.07

8:00 pm Beaver slaps at Susan and Errin.

4.22.07

10:00 am Two pair of Loons calling on Hill Lake in North Aitkin County.

All Day. Yellow Rumped Warblers, Kingfishers, 4 Bald Eagles, Robins building nests, Hepaticas blooming, Ruffed grouse drumming, and 2" rain at Meagan's house.

4.21.07

9:30 am Chris' pond has two swans, four wood ducks, three pairs of Mallards, two pairs of geese, and three pair of Blue-winged Teal.

4.20.07

10:15 am Four Tree Swallows flying over the dining hall.

4.19.07

6:45 am Two snowshoe hares dueling in Meagan's yard.

8:00 am Great Gray Owl 1/2 mile from Highway 5.

12:30 pm Osprey with fish in falons. A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker seen during Wilderness meal.

4.18.07

7:00 am Osprey on nest on Highway 169 (Aitkin flats).

10:00 am Beaver slaps tail at Seasonal Naturalists as they come by.

4.17.07

6:00 am Ice is gone from Long Lake overnight.

10:15 am Two Loons spotted on Long Lake.

All Day - Wood frogs and chorus frogs singing.

4.16.07

7:30 am An Osprey was sitting on the nest on the Flats (Hwy 169 N of Aitkin)

8:00 am A Phoebe is back, calling on campus.

8:00 pm Woodcock heard at LLCC archery area.

4.15.07

5 & 7 pm Skunk in compost pile and behind the apartment.

7 pm Mosquito bites Susan and Errin.

Evening Barred Owls go crazy! Frog Chorus.

Wood frogs, Western Chorus frogs, Spring peepers, and one Loon calling at Meagan's house.

8:20 pm Woodcock seen flying near Brainerd.

4.13.07

Evening. Wood frogs singing at Pat's.

4.12.07

8:30 pm Skunk outside the dining hall during canteen.

4.11.07

7:30 am Large Red Fox in my front yard at Fleming Lake.

all day The blind woodchuck has returned back to the energy center.

am/pm Male Loon on Blind Lake (north of Aitkin).

4:30 pm A beaver surfaced outside the new lodge on Long Lake.

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4.10.07

6:30 pm Kestrel chased birds at my feeder at Fleming Lake. A Pileated Woodpecker was pecking away at a tree next to the pond at my home at Fleming Lake. .

All Day Wolf tracks at entrance to the Bog Boardwalk.

4.09.07

3:30 pm Woodcock on ground between Lab and Marcum House.

6:55 pm Muskrat underneath ramp at school house and then eating a small patch of grass.

Evening: Twelve-plus Red-Winged blackbirds around bird feeder at Fleming Lake.

4.6.07

7:00 am A Kestrel is hanging out in Pat's garage!

4.5.07

6:38 am Morning low of 4 degrees with wind chill of 1 degree.

5:00 pm Saw meadowlarks and flickers on the dirt road near the Osprey nest on Hwy 169 (outside Aitkin)

4.4.07

5:00 pm A female Varied Thrush is in Pat's yard. Morning Total of 11.5 inches of snow.

4.3.07

2:00 pm Large Red Fox stops for a few minutes in my front yard by Fleming Lake.

Overnight & all day 2-3 inches snow overnight. Snow all day!

4.2.07

7:10 am Great Blue Heron flying over Cedar Lake.

2:30 pm Osprey back on nest on Hwy 169 on flats.

6:30 pm Osprey on traffic sign 2.5 miles north of Aitkin on Co Rd 1.

3:30 pm Owl roost with 12 pellets in entrance road bog; Barred Owl hooting nearby.

4.1.07

1:30 pm 4 male and 2 female Goldeneyes, 1 pair hooded Mergansers, and 1 Loon fly by on Meagan's lake.

3.29.07

8:00 am Wood Ducks calling/flying on lake edge.

9:30 am Barred Owl calls by ditch near overflow parking lot.

1:00 pm Otter & 12 geese on ice.

2:30 pm Whistling swans flew over.

Overnight Pair of otters out across Lake. .25 inches rain fell.

3.27.07

7:00 am Four large Whitetail deer in my yard at Fleming Lake.

8:15 am Four Canada Geese and three swans flying in "V" formation together over LLCC Dining Hall.

12:40 pm Turkey Vulture over flats. Kestrel over Hwy 210.

12:50 pm Morning Dove in yard.

1:15 pm Porcupine crosses the road by new ski lot.

4:00 pm Otter eating fish by oar house shore.

3.26.07

Peak of Day - New record high temp for today hit 78°; 6 degrees higher than previous record.

12:00 pm PHoebes & bluebirds calling. Two butterflies seen.

12:15 pm Three deer cross 210 out of McGregor.

5:00 "Morning Cloak" butterfly in my front yard at Fleming Lake.

10:30 pm Wood & Western Chorus frogs calling.

3/25/07

Bird Feeder by Fleming Lake full of Purple Finches and Gold Finches.

3.24.07

11:30 am Wolves howling & owl hooting outside the naturalist's apartment.

3.23.07

5:20 am Owl (undetermined type) crosses Chris' path along Highway 5.

am & pm Red-winged blackbirds in my front yard at McGregor.

3.22.07

2:00 pm Pileated woodpecker sighted on NE side of Long Lake.

2:15 pm Two robins in field at corner of Hwys 5 and 3.

9:15 pm Great Gray Owl flies low across Highway 210 in front of our car, about 5 miles west of McGregor.

3.21.07

8:40 am Six Canada Geese fly over. Overnight low of 40° F.

3:00 pm Porcupine sighting.

9:00 pm Barred owl flies in front of my car as I leave LLCC parking lot.

3.20.07

5:00 pm Chipmunk making a ruckus outside shop.

3.19.07

12:15 pm Northern Shrike on Highway 5.

9:00 am Two redwing blackbirds in Meagan's yard.

3.16.07

Night time Low of 13 degrees.

7:20 a.m. Male Marsh Hawk hunting on Highway 5.

3.15.07

All Day Light snow and below freezing temps.

3.14.07

6:30 a.m. Great horned owl in Meagan's yard.

10:30 a.m. Large bald eagle in tree 20 feet from roadside 2 miles south of McGregor on Highway 65. Awesome sight to see it take off in flight so close up.

3.13.07

Afternoon Temp at 60 degrees - near record high!

9:30 p.m. Lots of moths flying at night.

3.12.07

Buds popped out on trees at LLCC.

3.10.07

Morning Horned larks are back! There were quite a few on County Rd 1 four miles north of Aitkin.

Afternoon Woodchuck crosses Highway 65; Two eagles in White Pine on Highway 65.

3.9.07 - 3.11.07

Around 5 pm - A doe and fawn visit the apartment feeder at hte same time each day.

3.9.07

Bald Eagle flying over LLCC.

3.8.07

6:30 a.m. Two deer at bird feeder by the dining hall.

a.m. Six pine grosbeaks at feeder in Palisade.

10 p.m. Skunk crossing County 88.

3.7.07

7 a.m. Goldfinches starting to get breeding plumage. Temp. is -4 degrees.

3.6.07

10 a.m. Porcupine in white pine at pine tree forest. N. Shrike in Meagan's yard.

3.3.07

2:00 p.m. Porcupine in tree on Maddy Lake Trail in Refuge.

3.1.07 - 3.2.07

Blizzard at LLCC. Total snowfall of 20 inches.

2.28.07

8:45 am. 8-10 Grosbeaks outside of LLCC dining hall.

2.27.07

7:45 am. One Pine Grosbeak standing on side of road along Highway 210.

Two Pileated woodpeckers in circle drive by Marcum House.

All day. Two porcupines in pine tree on the Red Trail.

2.26.07 - 2.28.07

Two porcupines in adjoining trees on the alpha staging trail, past the big white pine.

2.26.07

6:00 p.m. Wolf almost walked up to Pat's car at County Road 1 & 22 intersection; seemed worn out and tired.

2.25.07

All day. About 8-9 inches of snow fell during the night and all day. Looking like a winter wonderland. Get out the skis!!

2.24.07

2:00 pm. Two Timberwolves eating deer along Highway 210.

2.23.07

3:00 pm. Two red fox hanging around the frozen pond at Carol's house by Fleming Lake.

4:30 pm. Dark colored muskrat crossed LLCC road heading toward the lift house.

2.22.07

3:00 am. Great Horned Owl hooting outside Meagan's house.

6:00 pm. Barred Owl hunting along County Road 28.

2.21.07

4:30 pm. Bald Eagle flying between Highway 5 and the campus - tree top high.

11:30 pm. Deputy finds dead Barred Owl on Highway 210.

2.20.07

1:00 pm. Ruffed Grouse in a tree on the Bog Ski Trail.

8:00 pm. Great Horned Owl and raccoon (alive) on Highway 5.

2.15.07

am. Whitetail buck dropped 1 antler during the night at LLCC.

2.10.07

10:30 am. Susan, on a mission to start her car (-22° in am), spotted a Pileated woodpecker at the dining hall feeder. Roxy's car did not start either.

4:00 pm. Porcupine spotted high in a tree along Highway 210.

6:00 pm. 2 Ruffed Grouse seen by Meagan's house.

Last Month.

A toy troll was stolen from the bird feeder and found in the woods during deer browse. Probably stolen by a squirrel.

2.9.07

7:15 am Male cardinal at feeder in Palisade.

8:43 am Red bellied female woodpecker on feeders.

Noon New Prague bus was too cold to leave LLCC. Against its will, it was towed home on 2-15-07.

2.8.07

Morning Short tail weasel spotted in parking lot carrying a vole for its breakfast!

Still a very cold windchill of -30° to -36° !

2.5.07

8:00 a.m. minus 27 degrees temp. with clear skies and sunny.

2.4.07

8:00 a.m. minus 26 degrees temp. with clear skies and sunny.

Afternoon. 2 bluejays, 1 starling, and finches at feeder at LLCC.

2.3.07

8:00 a.m. minus 20 degrees temp. cloudy and hazy, light snow during the day.

2.1.07

Morning 2 large Bald Eagles spotted flying over Hwy 169 south of Aitkin.

1.30.07

12:30 p.m. A female Kestrel was spotted over the flats by Aitkin.

9:00 p.m. Halo around the moon.

1.29.07

Evening A skunk was going down a road east of Isle.

1.28.07

All Day +42 degrees high down to -15 degrees low.

5 p.m. A muskrat seen on Hwy 18 by Finlayson.

1.26.07

1:30 p.m. +38 degrees and very sunny!

1.23.07

Morning 2 deer cross Long Lake. 1 very large Eagle sitting on the ice on Long Lake.

1.21.07

Morning 4 Pine Grosbeaks and 1 male Cardinal at bird feeder in Palisade.

Morning Red Fox spotted crossing yard by Fleming Lake.

1.19.07

9 p.m. 3 deer on road to LLCC late at night. Small critter (weasel?) runs across 210 near McGregor.

1.18.07

12:45 p.m. Bald Eagle off 210, landing atop a tree.

1.17.07

4:45 p.m. Observed two porcupines in trees chewing on bark around thicket. Bark was skinned off trees. One porcupine was in a White Pine tree. Spotted while playing the Thicket game.

1.14.07

4:00 pm Bald Eagle spotted by NSL.

1.12.07

4:30 pm First below 0 temp for 2007 - minus 6 degrees at Hill City, North Aitkin County; minus 4 degrees at LLCC, wind chill at minus 12 degrees.

1.11.07

Noon Large otter spotted on ice at Long Lake.

1.10.07

4:30 am First single digit temp for 2007. Minus 8 degrees in Hill City, North Aitkin County.

1.9.07

Pileated woodpecker eating lunch from a tree outside the east end of the dining hall. See video by clicking on picture: .

1.4.07

Morning Gray fox tracks spotted near NSL.

1.3.07

2:00 p.m. Grouse scat in woods by CCC Course. Otter tracks and slides on new beaver lodge. Porcupine has a new den tree by the alpha trail/thicket.

1.2.07

9:00 am Piliated woodpecker at the suet feeder at LLCC.