



Snowdrop (*Galanthus nivalis*)



Common Daffodil (*Narcissus pseudonarcissus*)



Rhododendron (*Rhododendron 'PJM'*)

Gardeners can preserve spring pollinators by planting bee-friendly gardens, providing bee and bird nesting habitats, and supporting sustainable agricultural practices. Let's preserve the delicate balance between blossoms and pollinators so we can ensure a verdant season full of flowers and fruits for all to enjoy!

find food.

precipitation bring more challenges for pollinators trying to Higher temperatures, disturbed weather patterns, and extreme rupting the synchrony between pollinators and blossoms. Climate change alters the timing when flowering occurs, dis-

tain biodiversity throughout the Hudson Valley and beyond. of life, creating interconnected ecological relationships that sus- ing of their activity coincides with the emergence of other forms other organisms, including birds and small mammals. The tim- success of plants, they also serve as a food source for many Early pollinators are not only essential for the reproductive

pollination necessary for seed formation. plants are crucial, since this contact facilitates the cross- tar and pollen. Their interactions with these early-blooming and even some beetles venture out, driven by the need for nec- are reliant on pollinators that brave the winter chill. Bees, flies, scarce for many other plant species, which means early blooms ing lingering cold spells. At this time of year, resources are still are among the first to bloom shortly after winter, often endure- plants. Flowers such as the lenten rose, crocus, and snowdrop Early-spring pollinators play a pivotal role in the life cycle of

THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY-SPRING POLLINATORS

- The Friends of the Bard Arboretum is an organization whose membership supports the Arboretum's mission. When you join, you strengthen community outreach and education efforts and help Bard's horticulture program. Plus, you can take advantage of the Arboretum's benefits:
- *Quercus*, the Arboretum's newsletter, which provides campus landscape updates, useful horticultural information, and gardening trends
- Invitations to Arboretum events, tours, and special occasions
- Email/s/maillings regarding related campus events and functions

FRIENDS OF THE ARBORETUM

Bard College established the Landscape and Arboretum Program on Arbor Day, April 27, 2007. It covers more than 1,000 acres and is part of the 32-mile Hudson River National Historic Landmark District.

ABOUT THE ARBORETUM

Our goal is to preserve and enhance the natural and landscaped resources of the Bard College campus and promote knowledge of and appreciation for ornamental horticulture and conservation. The Bard Arboretum aims to provide an environment rich in diversity and natural beauty that can be readily enjoyed by the College and surrounding community. Furthermore, we envision the Bard Arboretum as a place to understand and appreciate a nationally significant historical landscape in the Hudson Valley.

THE ARBORETUM'S MISSION

Photos by Kim Easlick CEP '26

Bard is 90 miles (approximately two hours) north of New York City and 50 miles (one hour) south of Albany, with Amtrak service to Rhinecliff, New York, about nine miles south of Annandale. Our GPS address is 30 Campus Road, Red Hook, New York, 12571.

OUR LOCATION

The Arboretum welcomes group visits and offers docent-led tours with advance reservations. Please contact us at 845-752-LEAF (5323) or email arboretum@bard.edu at least two weeks in advance to schedule your visit.

GUIDED TOURS

The Arboretum grounds are free and open to the public from sunrise to sunset, unless otherwise posted.

HOURS OF OPERATION

The Arboretum encompasses the entirety of Bard College's Montgomery Place gardens. We gratefully accept donations and encourage you to become a friend of the Bard Arboretum. The whole campus is walkable, although not all grounds may be fully accessible; many sites have drop-off areas nearby. Public, wheelchair-accessible restrooms are located in the Bertelsmann Campus Center and Montgomery Place Visitors Center. For other accessibility requests, please call in advance: 845-752-LEAF (5323) or email arboretum@bard.edu.

VISITING THE ARBORETUM

ABOUT BARD COLLEGE

Founded in 1860, Bard College is a four-year residential college of the liberal arts and sciences. With the addition of the Montgomery Place and Massena properties, Bard's campus consists of more than 1,000 parklike acres in the Hudson River Valley. The College offers bachelor of arts, bachelor of science, and bachelor of music degrees, with majors in nearly 40 academic programs, advanced degrees through 13 graduate programs, 10 early colleges, and numerous dual-degree programs nationally and internationally. The campus's open spaces include Montgomery Place's formal gardens, farm, and orchards, famous for many varieties of apples; the 1.25-acre Bard Farm, which provides sustainably grown produce to the campus community; and the renowned Blithewood Garden, in an elegant Italianate setting. The Arboretum engages with the ecological and horticultural biodiversity of the Hudson Valley and political narratives that have shaped the land. We acknowledge that we have gathered on the sacred homeland of the Munsee and Muhheaconneok people and invite all community members to use our Arboretum as a place of healing, well-being, learning, and growth. For more information, visit bard.edu.



Come with me into the woods where
spring is advancing
—Mary Oliver

Lenten Rose (*Helleborus orientalis*)



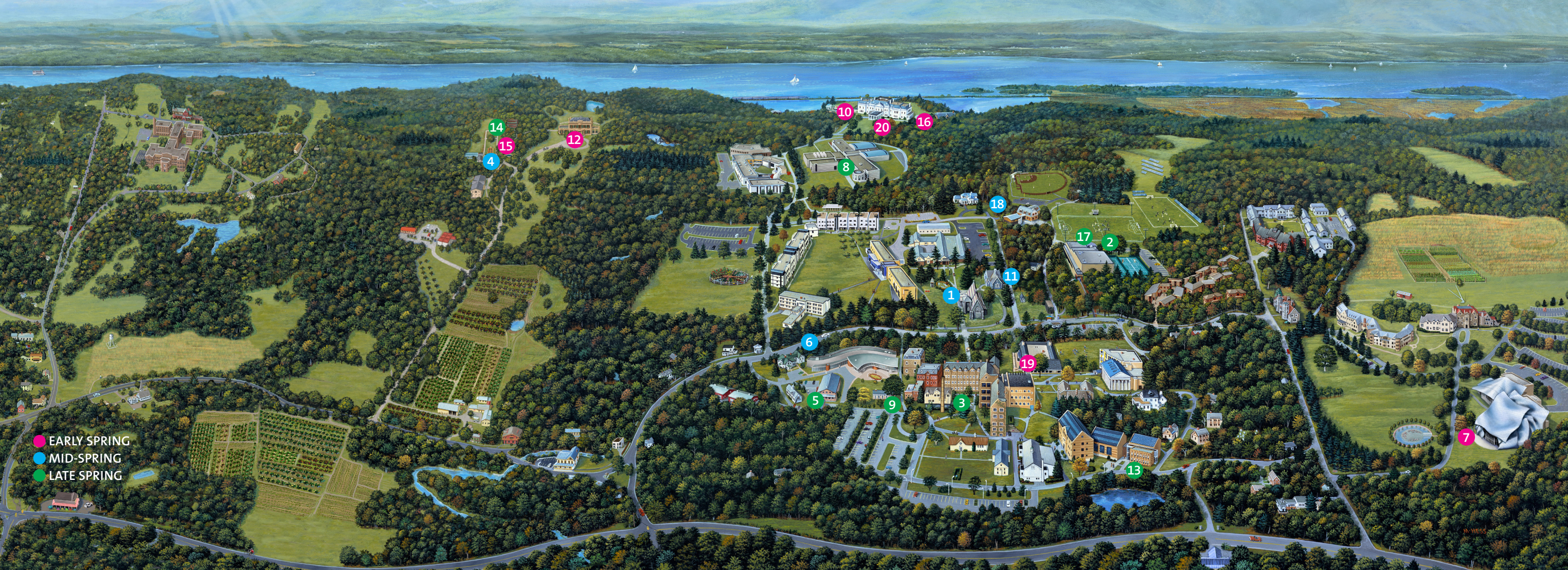
Bleeding Heart (*Lamprocapnos spectabilis*)



Crocus (*Crocus vernus*)

LANDSCAPE AND ARBORETUM SPRING WALKING TOUR GUIDE

Bard College
Annandale-on-Hudson, New York



EARLY SPRING
MID-SPRING
LATE SPRING

1 EASTERN REDBUD
(Cercis canadensis) **Family: Fabaceae**
Native to North and Central America
Mid-spring / Height: 20–30 ft / Spread: 25–35 ft
A deciduous tree in the pea family bearing 2–4-inch seed pods that hang in clusters, with pink flowers that bloom later in spring before its heart-shaped leaves emerge.

2 PAPERBARK MAPLE
(Acer griseum) **Family: Sapindaceae**
Native to China
Late spring / Height: 20–30 ft / Spread 15–20 ft
A landscape favorite for its cinnamon-colored, peeling bark. In late spring, its vibrant, green palmate leaves appear, providing shade in the understory canopy.

3 MOSS PHLOX, CREEPING PHLOX
(Phlox subulata) **Family: Polemoniaceae**
Native to central and eastern United States
Late spring / Height: 4–6” / Spread: 1–2 ft
A late-spring emerger that blankets the ground with a profusion of delicate, star-shaped flowers, often in hues of pink, purple, and white. These tiny blossoms create a mesmerizing tapestry of color and texture and produce a sweet fragrance.

4 JAPANESE ANDROMEDA
(Pieris japonica) **Family: Ericaceae**
Native to Taiwan, southern Japan, and southeast China
Mid-spring / Height: 9–12 ft / Spread: 6–8 ft
Known for its fragrant, bell-shaped flowers that appear in drooping clusters known as racemes, which provide nectar for pollinators. The leaves are lance-shaped with a smooth texture and a dark green color, providing year-round foliage interest.

5 BLEEDING HEART
(Lamprocapnos spectabilis) **Family: Papaveraceae**
Native to Siberia, northern China, Japan, and Korea
Late spring / Height: 24–36” / Spread: 18–24”
Emerges as a whimsical spectacle, with its arching stems bearing rows of heart-shaped blossoms, often in shades of pink and white. These intricate flowers beckon a variety of pollinators, from bees to hummingbirds.

6 COMMON DAFFODIL
(Narcissus pseudonarcissus) **Family: Amaryllidaceae**
Native to Europe and northern Africa
Mid-spring / Height: 1–2 ft / Spread: 0.5–2 ft
A flowering bulb perennial best recognized for its bright yellow, trumpet-shaped flowers appearing in early to mid-spring. Growing from slender green stems, daffodils also have a light, delicate fragrance.

7 LENTEN ROSE
(Helleborus orientalis) **Family: Ranunculaceae**
Native to central Europe
Early spring / Height: 1.5 ft / Spread: 1.5 ft
An evergreen, herbaceous bloomer that produces large, cup-shaped pink, purple, and white flowers. The flowers measure 3–4 inches in diameter, often clustered together in groups, lasting for up to 10 weeks.

8 GINKGO TREE
(Ginkgo biloba) **Family: Ginkgoaceae**
Native to China
Late spring / Height: 30–50 ft / Spread: 25–30 ft
A multiseason plant. In late spring, its fan-shaped leaves emerge in shades of bright green. Clusters of inconspicuous yellow and green flowers appear later, adorning the stubby spur shoots with a subtle charm.

9 FLOWERING DOGWOOD
(Cornus florida) **Family: Cornaceae**
Native to eastern North America and northern Mexico
Late spring / Height: 20–30 ft / Spread: 15–20 ft
A native tree recognized for its branches adorned with creamy-white bracts that look like blossoms. These exquisite flowers serve as a beacon for pollinators with a soft, sweet fragrance.

10 WHITE FORSYTHIA
(Abeliophyllum distichum) **Family: Oleaceae**
Native to Korea
Early spring / Height: 3–5 ft / Spread: 3–4 ft
An underused alternative to the classic yellow version, recognized for its very early bloom, its arching branches adorned with profuse white to pink bell-shaped flowers that offer a contrast to the still-dormant landscape.

11 OSTRICH FERN
(Matteuccia struthiopteris) **Family: Onocleaceae**
Native to eastern North America
Mid-spring / Height: 3–8 ft / Spread: 3–5 ft
Unfurls its fiddleheads into vaselike fronds as spring unfolds. Each vibrant green frond, resembling the plume of an ostrich feather, opens to create a silhouette across the woodland carpet.

12 SAUCER MAGNOLIA
(Magnolia x soulangeana) **Family: Magnoliaceae**
Native to Taiwan, China, and Japan
Early spring / Height: 20–30 ft / 15–25 ft
A hybrid cross between *Magnolia denudata* and *Magnolia lilliflora*, producing large, cup-shaped pink flowers that provide a sweet, citrusy aroma.

13 RHODODENDRON
(Rhododendron ‘PJM’) **Family: Ericaceae**
Native to eastern North America
Late spring / Height: 3–6 ft / Spread: 3–7 ft
Displays dense clusters of showy flowers in various hues, including lavender, rose, and pink. These evergreen shrubs feature leathery leaves and thrive in partial shade; a popular ornamental plant in gardens and landscapes.

14 TULIP POPLAR
(Liriodendron tulipifera) **Family: Magnoliaceae**
Native to eastern North America
Late spring / Height: 70–90 ft / Spread: 35–50 ft
After the large, distinctly shaped green leaves open, this tree bears fragrant, cup-shaped flowers with yellow exteriors and orange interiors. Beloved by honeybees and hummingbirds for its abundance of nectar.

15 WINTER HAZEL
(Corylopsis spicata) **Family: Hamamelidaceae**
Native to Japan
Early spring / Height: 4–8 ft / Spread: 6–10 ft
This deciduous shrub is known for its graceful arching branches, with blooms on racemes. The leaves are simple and elliptical in shape, with finely serrated margins, emerging light green in color, gradually darkening as the season progresses.

16 RED MAPLE
(Acer rubrum) **Family: Sapindaceae**
Native to eastern North America
Early spring / Height: 40–70 ft / Spread: 30–50 ft
The small, red flowers appear in clusters, signaling the arrival of warmer weather. The somewhat inconspicuous flowers, sometimes overlooked for the vibrant fall colors, play a vital role in early-season pollination efforts.

17 JAPANESE MAPLE
(Acer palmatum) **Family: Sapindaceae**
Native to southeast Korea and central and southern Japan
Late spring / Height: 10–25 ft / Spread: 10–20 ft
Slender, winding branches and intricate palmate leaves unfold in vibrant red and orange. Small, inconspicuous flowers appear later, adding a subtle beauty to the budding foliage.

18 NORTHERN SPICEBUSH
(Lindera benzoin) **Family: Lauraceae**
Native to eastern North America
Mid-spring / Height: 6–15 ft / Spread: 6–12 ft
A multistemmed, broad shrub bearing fragrant, tiny yellow flowers weeks before the classic forsythia bush. Later, oblong green leaves appear that are fragrant when crushed.

19 CROCUS
(Crocus vernus) **Family: Iridaceae**
Native to the Alps, Pyrenees, and Balkans
Early spring / Height: 4–6” / Spread: 2–3”
These delicate petals unfurl to reveal hues of purple, white, and yellow. Often among the first to bloom, these flowers signal the end of winter dormancy.

20 SNOWDROP
(Galanthus nivalis) **Family: Amaryllidaceae**
Native to Europe and southwestern Asia
Early spring / Height: 0.50–0.75 ft / Spread: 0.25–50 ft
One of the first spring flowers to emerge, with slim green stems that give way to small, bell-shaped white flowers. It offers an essential source of early-season nectar.