

Dear Colleague:

Because of your research and expertise in the field of phenology, you are invited to attend a National Science Foundation-funded **Research Coordination Network (RCN) workshop sponsored by the USA National Phenology Network (USA-NPN)** in Milwaukee, WI. The meeting will be held at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee on **May 22-23, 2012**. Travel expenses to attend this meeting will be charged to the NSF RCN grant for non-federal participants.

The goal of this gathering of ~45 practitioners is to identify key strategies for moving the field of phenology forward. In doing so, we aspire to bolster the science and data-oriented goals of the USA-NPN as a mechanism for supporting the long-term relevance and sustainability of the Network and the field of phenology at-large. Please refer to the USA-NPN website for more information the organizational priorities and accomplishments of the Network to date (<http://www.usanpn.org>).

Specific workshop objectives include:

- (1) Identification of a suite of “grand challenges” related to phenology research and applications that are relevant to decision-making at the national scale
- (2) Generation of a phenology-linked data products catalogue
- (3) Development of a plan for strategically growing the National Phenology Database to support research, data products, and decision support systems.

Specific workshop outcomes include:

- (1) Workshop report submitted to all participants and the National Science Foundation
- (2) A white paper outlining a national agenda for phenology research and applications for the next decade.

Please RSVP at your earliest convenience to Carolyn Enquist (carolyn@usanpn.org). In the meantime, feel free to contact us if you have any questions. Also, check our RCN webpage for a workshop agenda in the upcoming weeks: <http://www.usanpn.org/rcn-2012>.

Sincerely,

Carolyn A.F. Enquist, *Science Coordinator*
Jake Weltzin, *Executive Director*
Mark D. Schwartz, *Chairman of the Advisory Committee*

USA National Phenology Network
National Coordinating Office
Tucson, Arizona 85721
Tel. 520-792-0571