

Spring in the Gore Region

If you've ever driven up the winding roads through the Adirondack Mountains, then you know how beautiful springtime can be. The sunshine is melting the snow and thawing the ground, fish are plentiful, and flowers are popping up everywhere. The Gore Region provides a home to a stunning array of wildlife, flora and family activities!



Photo courtesy of [Wildflowers of the Adirondacks](#) (Carolina Springbeauty)

Wildflowers are a key component in the Gore Region's natural habitat. One of the first flowers you'll encounter in spring is the Trout Lily, also known as a Dog Tooth Violet.

This delicate yellow flower with mottled petals is an ephemeral, meaning it blooms, produces fruit and dies before the tree canopies fully spread out in the summer months. These shy beauties make their first appearance in mid-late April and are fully blossoming by mid-May. They are delicacies to white-tailed deer, black bears and chipmunks!

Another gorgeous wildflower you're sure to find in spring is the Carolina Springbeauty. This small, pink flower grows in deep forests and the rich soil of forest edges. These perennials sprout from the ground early each spring and are in full bloom by early-May. Native Americans used the roots of Carolina Springbeauties as

a source of food. The roots are quite starchy and can be eaten raw or cooked, like potatoes.



Wildflowers aren't the only things waking up in the Gore Region come springtime. Abundant wildlife is coming out of hibernation or returning from migration and, just like us after a long nap or flight, they are hungry!

In Spring, these furry cuties are most active during the middle part of the day. If you're visiting the Gore Region in April or May you might be lucky enough to spot some pups!

Woodchucks typically give birth in March and April, venturing out of their dens for family outings later in the season. Woodchucks are primarily herbivores, dining on alfalfa, hay grasses, grains, apples, and Adirondack red clover. You're most likely to catch a glimpse of a woodchuck family near the forest edge, but they like their privacy, so don't get too close.



Another common sight in the Gore Region during the springtime are black bears. These furry friends emerge from hibernation in late-March or early-April. Typically, they leave their dens in search of food in the afternoon or at dusk. They like their space so den sites can include cavities within or under rocks, inside hollow trees, nestled within brush piles, or inside wind-toppled trees.

When traveling on the ground, black bears are creatures of habit and they often lumber along the same pathway or trail for years. So if someone has a black bear sighting off a certain trail, odds are, you'll see one too. Black bears are kings of the forest in Adirondack Park, having no known predators. They are quiet creatures who like to stay to themselves but will venture closer to populated areas if food becomes scarce.



Photo courtesy of Beaver Brook Outfitters

Paddling is a great way to see the area's natural beauty. Take out a canoe, kayak or paddleboat on one of the many lakes and rivers in the Gore Region. A great option to make a day out of this excursion is through [Beaver Brook Outfitters](#) where you and your family can have a scenic flatwater adventure!

While on you're on the water you can go fishing. Trout season is in full swing during the springtime. In ponds, you'll be able to catch brook trout or head to the larger rivers and streams for rainbows, browns, and brookies.

Hiking, biking and trail walking are more options to experience nature up close but be advised that mud season runs April through May. Hikers are advised to only use trails at lower elevations during the spring mud season, to avoid damaging natural resources and promote safety. For novice explorers, we suggest sticking to the waters and paved paths until the mud dries up.

Spring is the perfect time to visit the Gore Region and explore all the natural beauty we have to offer. After your woodland or water adventure, you can head downtown and indulge in some [retail therapy](#), delicious [food and drinks](#) then lay your head in [a cozy bed](#). In the Gore Region, we have it all!