

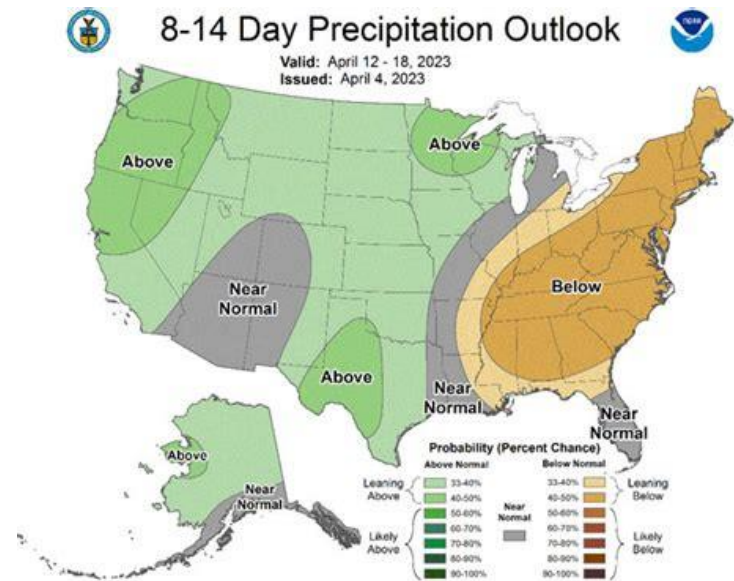


Spring green!

Interesting information about plants

Soil temperature

Soil temperature is a function of heat flux in the soil and soil/atmosphere exchange. It drives the timing of germination of seeds, affects root development, impacts nitrification and is a catalyst for other biological processes.



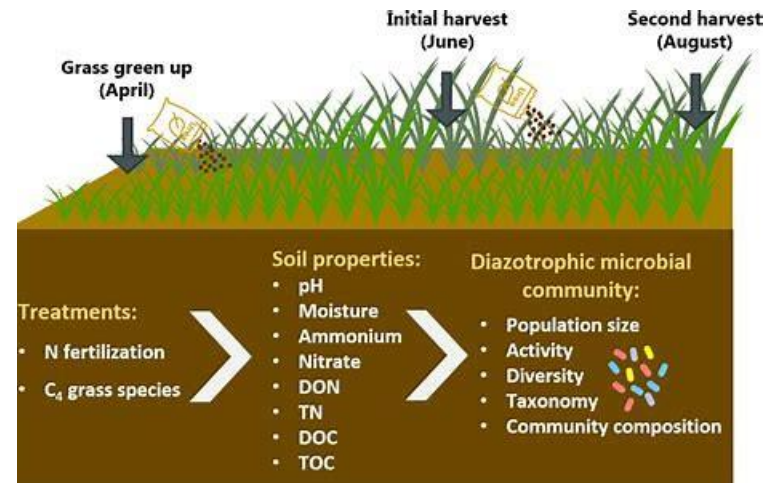
How grass grows

Grass growth progresses through stages: vegetative (growth of leaves and roots), transition (preparation for reproduction), and reproductive (flowering and seed production).

Vegetative=germination, seedling growth, and the establishment of a strong root system.

Transition=the apical meristem (the growing point) converts from a vegetative bud to a floral bud.

Reproduction=Stalks elongate, seed heads develop, a process known as the "boot stage". Seed production follows flowering, pollination, seed maturation, and dispersal.



Things to know about tree growth

Trees can be less variable=complacent or more variable=sensitive.

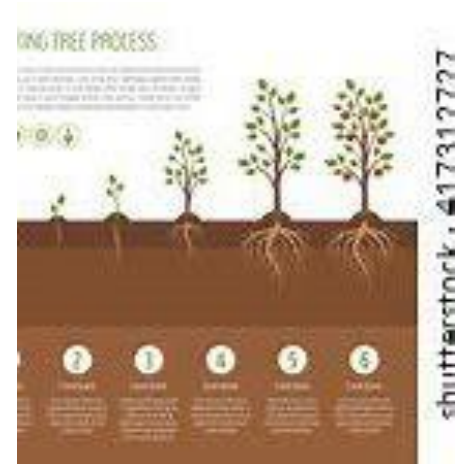
New growth comes from buds.

Wounds heal with compartilization.

Roots are mainly in the top 6" of soil.

There are woody and non-woody roots.

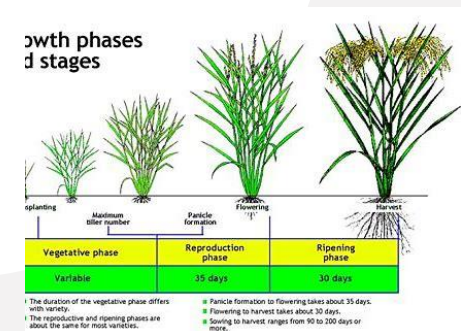
The vascular cambium builds up the xylem and phloem.



Annuals and biennials

The goal of annuals is to make as many seeds as possible—
seed>vegetative>reproductive>seed>death.

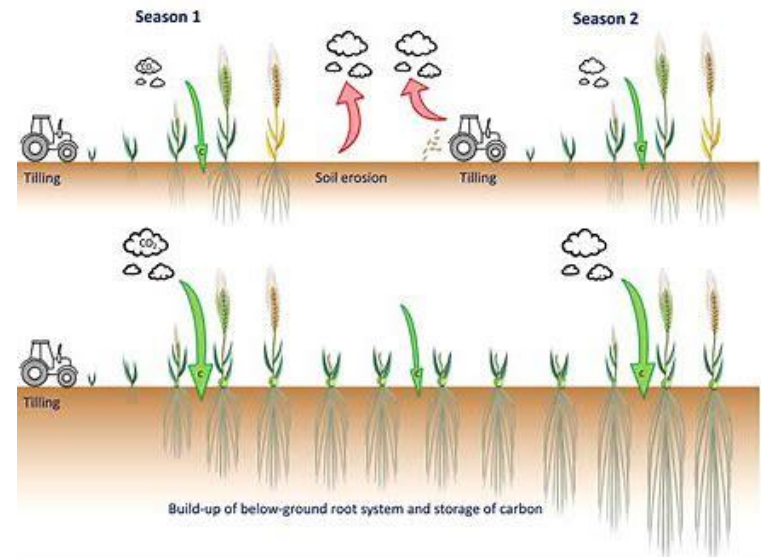
The goal of biennials is to make seeds before it dies—
seed>vegetative>dormancy>vegetative>reproductive>seed>death



Perennials and ephemerals

The goal of perennials is vegetative reproduction—these plants will become dormant when organs above ground die back.

Ephemerals have advantages of being drought tolerant, competitive and they display maximum success for individual plants and species. They may have specialized pollinators. They may survive as a tuber, rhizome or bulb underground.



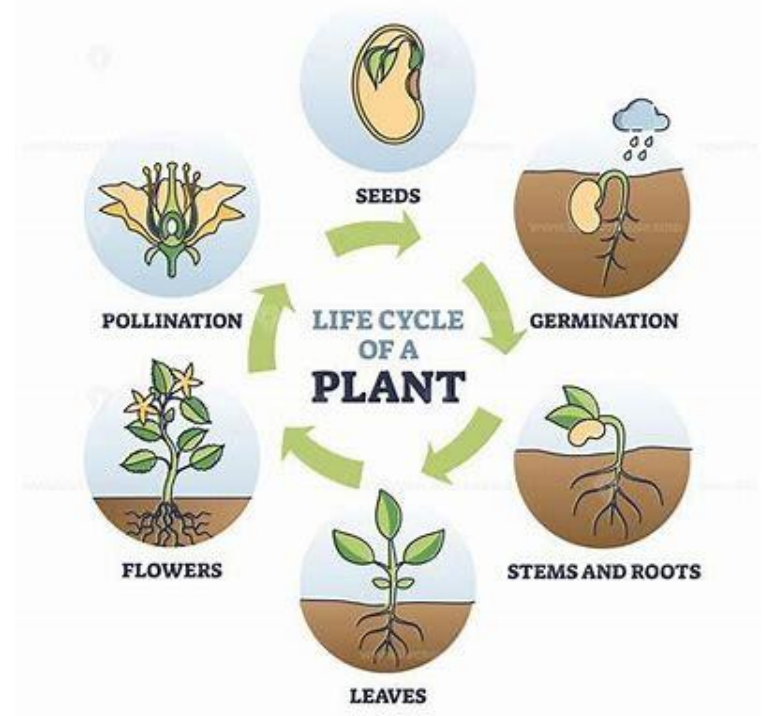
Greentime springtime! To *Coming Around the Mountain*

Plants are growing in a cycle,
yes, they do!

Plants are growing in a cycle,
yes, they do!

Seed to vegetative,
reproductive for each native,

Plants are growing in a cycle,
yes, they do!



Plant growth extensions

As you walk through the park, note the various stages of growth of different plants.

Can you make a journal of your observations?

And what seeds and greens can you use to make a plant growth snack?



Plant growth journal

Plant	Location	Time of day	Observations

Learn how
different
plants
grow!

