

# SPECIES SPOTLIGHT

Look for it now in southwest Ohio!

Spring 2022



*Twinleaf photos by Dave Woehr.*

## Twinleaf (*Jeffersonia diphylla*)

By Dave Woehr, Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist

Twinleaf is a spring ephemeral with a large white bloom that closely resembles the Bloodroot flower. The two plants are often found in the same wooded location. Twinleaf begins to bloom a few weeks after the Bloodroot, but it is short-lived and is gone before the Bloodroot stops blooming. Sometimes the fragile Twinleaf petals are only in place a couple of days before the gentlest of breezes separate them from the flower stem. Consider yourself lucky if you are in the right place at the right time and catch the Twinleaf in full bloom.

Twinleaf gets its name from the appearance of its leaf which is symmetrically split into two equal and opposite halves like the pages of an open book. Some folks think the leaf looks like a butterfly or angel wings; others think it resembles miniature elephant ears. The flower blooms on a stem among the leaves with the overall plant height being about one foot. The plant propagates by seed. The seedlings take up to five years to develop into a fully mature blooming plant.

[Hisey Park](#), located outside Waynesville at 5443 Middletown Rd., Corwin, OH 45068, is a wildflower hot spot! To learn more about the spring ephemerals you may see, visit the Ohio Division of Wildlife's [Spring Wildflowers of Ohio Field Guide](#) and check out their [weekly report](#) to see what is currently in bloom.