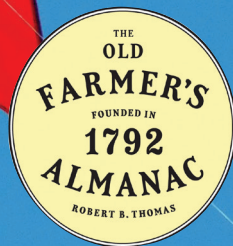


EXTRA!

FROM THE OLD FARMER'S ALMANAC

STOCK OPTIONS FOR SMALL FARMS
EAT YOUR DANDELIONS!
CHANGE UP YOUR CHICKEN RECIPES
GO FLY A KITE!



APRIL 2022

PHOTO: ADIABATIC/GETTY IMAGES

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AMUSEMENT

Go Fly a Kite!

FOOD

Change Up Your
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Stock Options for
Small Farms

LIVING NATURALLY

Eat Your Dandelions!



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CALENDAR

April Holidays,
Full Moon Names,
and More

ASTROLOGY

Best Days to
Do Things

Gardening by the
Moon's Sign

ASTRONOMY

Sky Map for April

WIT

Humor Me
*Grins and groans
from the Almanac*

WHAT'S NEXT

See what we have
in store for our
May issue!

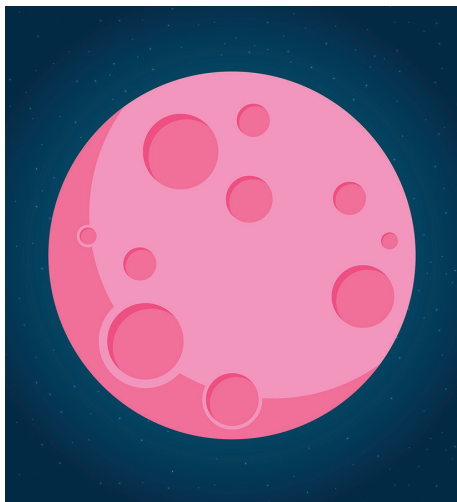


FOLLOW US:



APRIL

Holidays, Full Moon Names, and More



EYE ON THE SKY

APRIL'S FULL MOON NAMES

Pink Moon, Broken Snowshoe Moon,
Moon When the Geese Lay Eggs

MOON PHASES

New Moon: Apr. 1, 2:24 A.M. EDT

First Quarter: Apr. 9, 2:48 A.M. EDT

Full Moon: Apr. 16, 2:55 P.M. EDT

Last Quarter: Apr. 23, 7:56 A.M. EDT

New Moon: Apr. 30, 4:28 P.M. EDT

▶ TAP FOR MORE ABOUT MOON PHASES

▶ TAP FOR MORE ABOUT APRIL'S FULL MOON

APRIL'S BIRTHSTONE: DIAMOND

Made mostly of carbon, a diamond forms at high pressure 90 or more miles deep in the Earth. It is the hardest gemstone but not the hardest substance. (Research suggests that lonsdaleite, for one, is harder.) Often colorless, a diamond also may appear in colors such as yellow, brown, red, pink, orange, blue, or green, from pale to intense; the more saturated the hue, the greater the value. In addition to being a symbol of everlasting love, the diamond was once thought to bring courage.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Apr. 1: All Fools' Day

Apr. 2: Ramadan begins at sundown

Apr. 10: Palm Sunday

Apr. 15: Good Friday

Apr. 15: Passover begins at sundown

Apr. 17: Easter

Apr. 18: Easter Monday

Apr. 22: Earth Day

Apr. 24: Orthodox Easter

Apr. 29: National Arbor Day



BEST DAYS TO DO THINGS

These April dates, deemed to be propitious in astrology, are based on the astrological passage of the Moon. However, consider all indicators before making any major decisions. —*Celeste Longacre*

PERSONAL

Advertise to sell: 2–4, 30

Ask for a loan: 17, 18

Begin diet to gain weight: 4, 9

Begin diet to lose weight: 18, 27

Buy a home: 2–4

Color hair: 2–4, 30

Cut hair to discourage growth:
25, 26

Cut hair to encourage growth: 2–4

Entertain: 10, 11

Get married: 15, 16



Have dental care: 12–14
Move (house/household): 5, 6
Perm hair: 23, 24
Quit smoking: 18, 27
Straighten hair: 19, 20
Travel for pleasure: 10, 11
Wean children: 18, 27

AROUND THE HOUSE

Bake: 7–9
Brew: 17, 18
Can, pickle, or make sauerkraut:
25, 26
Demolish: 17, 18
Dry fruit, vegetables, or meat: 19, 20
End projects: 2
Lay shingles: 10, 11
Make jams or jellies: 25, 26
Paint: 15, 16
Start projects: 30
Wash floors: 25, 26
Wash windows: 1, 27–29

OUTDOORS

Begin logging: 21, 22
Go camping: 19, 20

Go fishing: 1–16, 30
Set posts or pour concrete: 21, 22

IN THE GARDEN

Destroy pests and weeds: 1, 27–29
Graft or pollinate: 7–9
Harvest aboveground crops: 2–4
Harvest belowground crops: 17, 18
Mow to promote growth: 1, 12–14
Mow to slow growth: 17, 18
Pick fruit: 12–14
Plant aboveground crops: 7–9
Plant belowground crops: 25, 26
Prune to discourage growth: 19, 20
Prune to encourage growth: 10, 11

ON THE FARM

Breed animals: 17, 18
Castrate animals: 23, 24
Cut hay: 1, 27–29
Purchase animals: 7–9
Set eggs: 14, 15, 23, 24
Slaughter livestock: 17, 18
Wean animals: 18, 27

Order your spring companion to the *Almanac*

2022 EDITION



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THE OLD FARMER'S ALMANAC Garden Guide

VEGETABLES, FLOWERS, HOUSEPLANTS, HERBS, AND MORE!



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NOW SHIPPING!



GARDENING BY THE MOON'S SIGN

Use the April dates shown in the Moon's Astrological Place calendar below to find the best days for the following garden tasks:

PLANT, TRANSPLANT, AND GRAFT: Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces, or Taurus

HARVEST: Aries, Leo, Sagittarius, Gemini, or Aquarius

BUILD/FIX FENCES OR GARDEN BEDS: Capricorn

CONTROL INSECT PESTS, PLOW, AND WEED: Aries, Gemini, Leo, Sagittarius, or Aquarius

PRUNE: Aries, Leo, or Sagittarius. During a waxing Moon, pruning encourages growth; during a waning Moon, it discourages growth.

THE MOON'S ASTROLOGICAL PLACE IN APRIL

1 Aries	9 Cancer	17 Scorpio	25 Pisces
2 Taurus	10 Leo	18 Scorpio	26 Pisces
3 Taurus	11 Leo	19 Sagittarius	27 Aries
4 Taurus	12 Virgo	20 Sagittarius	28 Aries
5 Gemini	13 Virgo	21 Capricorn	29 Aries
6 Gemini	14 Virgo	22 Capricorn	30 Taurus
7 Cancer	15 Libra	23 Aquarius	
8 Cancer	16 Libra	24 Aquarius	

+ TAP FOR
MERCURY IN
RETROGRADE
DATES

▶ TAP FOR
APRIL MOON
PHASES

MERCURY IN RETROGRADE

Sometimes the other planets appear to be traveling backward through the zodiac; this is an illusion. We call this illusion *retrograde motion*.

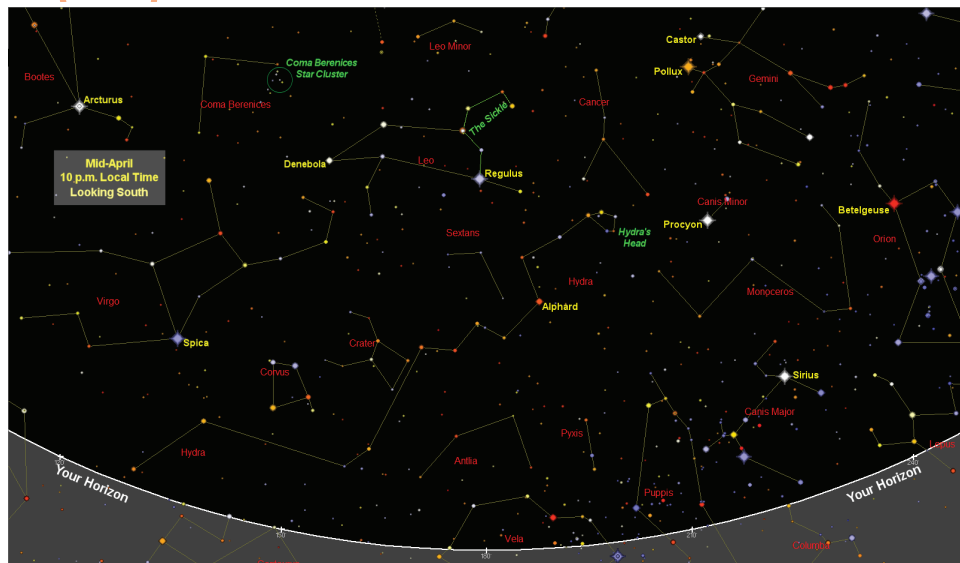
Mercury's retrograde periods can cause our plans to go awry. However, this is an excellent time to reflect on the past. Intuition is high during these periods, and coincidences can be extraordinary.

When Mercury is retrograde, remain flexible, allow extra time for travel, and avoid signing contracts. Review projects and plans at these times, but wait until Mercury is direct again to make any final decisions.

Mercury's 2022 retrograde periods:
May 10–June 2, September 9–October 1,
and **December 28–(January 18, 2023).**

–*Celeste Longacre*

Celebrating its 45th anniversary in 2022, the best-selling Old Farmer's Almanac Gardening Calendar is filled with beautiful art, helpful tips, insightful quotes, and an easy-to-use grid with holidays and Moon phases. Order yours today at [Almanac.com/Shop](https://www.almanac.com/shop).




THE MINOR LEAGUERS

With the start of baseball season upon us, this seems an appropriate time to look at constellations that haven't made the Big Leagues. These are the night sky's lesser lights, constellations that are either too small or too faint to make the celestial all-star team. To maximize your ability to see the Minor Leaguers, choose a moonless night during April and a viewing location as far as possible from city lights.

First, let's get our bearings. When you look to the south on April evenings, mighty Leo, the Lion, dominates the scene. The most distinctive part of Leo is the Sickle asterism, a pattern of six stars anchored by Regulus, the 21st brightest star in the night sky. Once you've spotted the Sickle, you should have little trouble tracing out the rest of Leo, culmination with bright Denebola, whose name comes from an Arabic phrase meaning "tail of the lion."

With Leo clearly in view, we can now make our way to the

 TAP TO GET
A PRINTABLE
APRIL SKY MAP

 TAP TO
FOLLOW
OHIOAN JEFF
DETRAY'S SKY
ADVENTURES



first few Minor Leaguers. Just above Leo lies the Smaller Lion, Leo Minor. You'll have to make good use of your imagination, because only three of Leo Minor's stars are easily visible, arranged in a much-flattened triangle. Moving to the east (leftward), we find Coma Berenices, Berenice's Hair, named for Queen Berenice of ancient Egypt. It seems Berenice pledged to cut her long, flowing hair if her husband, King Ptolemy III, returned safely from battle. When he did, Berenice lopped off her golden locks, and astronomers of the time declared that they would be forever preserved in the night sky.

Like Leo Minor, Coma Berenices consists of just three main stars. However, the constellation is also home to the Coma Berenices Star Cluster, which is highlighted on our map. With your eyes alone, you will see only about five stars in the cluster, but even small binoculars will reveal several more.

Continuing downward, past the large constellation Virgo, we come to the compact figures of Corvus, the Crow, and Crater, the Cup. Corvus is an ancient constellation, dating back to at least 1100 B.C., when it was known to the Babylonians as The Raven. Its four main stars form an asterism that is easy to spot, even though it bears scant resemblance to a crow. Crater is much fainter but equally old, and it does actually resemble its namesake.

To the upper right of Crater and directly below Regulus is Sextans, the Sextant, one of the least impressive constellations of all. It's another three-star constellation, but unlike very ancient Corvus and Crater, Sextans is a modern invention. It was first designated as a constellation in 1687 by noted Polish astronomer Johannes Hevelius.

Slithering beneath the small constellations Corvus, Crater, and Sextans is Hydra, the Water Snake. Hydra is the largest of all constellations, an impressive meandering figure that spans nearly one-quarter of the sky, from its head high in the south to its tail near the eastern horizon. This constellation has been recognized since very ancient times, despite being home to only one bright star, Alphard, known as "The Solitary One."

Hydra seems to be meandering westward toward Monoceros, the Unicorn, a faint W-shape grouping that will require you to have dark skies if you are to see it at all. The final Minor Leaguer in this part of the sky is Cancer, the Crab, which sits just above the head of Hydra and directly to the right of the Sickle, where we began our journey.

—Jeff DeTray

AMUSEMENT



Go Fly a Kite!

When the sky is clear and the wind is up, it's time to join in the fun of kite flight!

PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK

Often considered a kids' pastime, kite flying is not merely child's play. We all know that Benjamin Franklin used a kite to prove that there was electricity in lightning, and maybe you know that the Wright brothers used kites to test their theories about flying machines, but did you also know that these heavier-than-air creations have played important roles in history, invention, transportation, folklore, and more?

- Kites are believed to have **originated in ancient China**. They have been **used in wartime** to measure distances, gauge wind speed and direction, and communicate messages in a way similar to that of sailors using semaphore flags at sea.
- In the 7th century, **Buddhist monks introduced kites to Japan**, using them to deter evil spirits and spur hopes for a fruitful harvest. Kite flying became such a popular pastime among ordinary people that the government accused them of being

“unmindful of their work” and discouraged the fun.

- Marco Polo's travel diary indicates that in Weifang, China, in 1282, he learned that manned **kites were used to test the wind** and thus predict the success of a voyage. If the kite and its passenger flew high and straight, clear sailing was anticipated. Polo later helped to introduce kites to Europe.

- In 1748–49, Alexander Wilson **used a train of kites to raise thermometers into the air**. Burning fuses of different lengths attached near the thermometers caused them to fall to earth, providing the temperature at different altitudes.

- In the early 1820s, in Bristol, England, British schoolteacher George Pocock **used kites to power a horseless carriage** called a “charvolant”—a predecessor to the kite buggy.

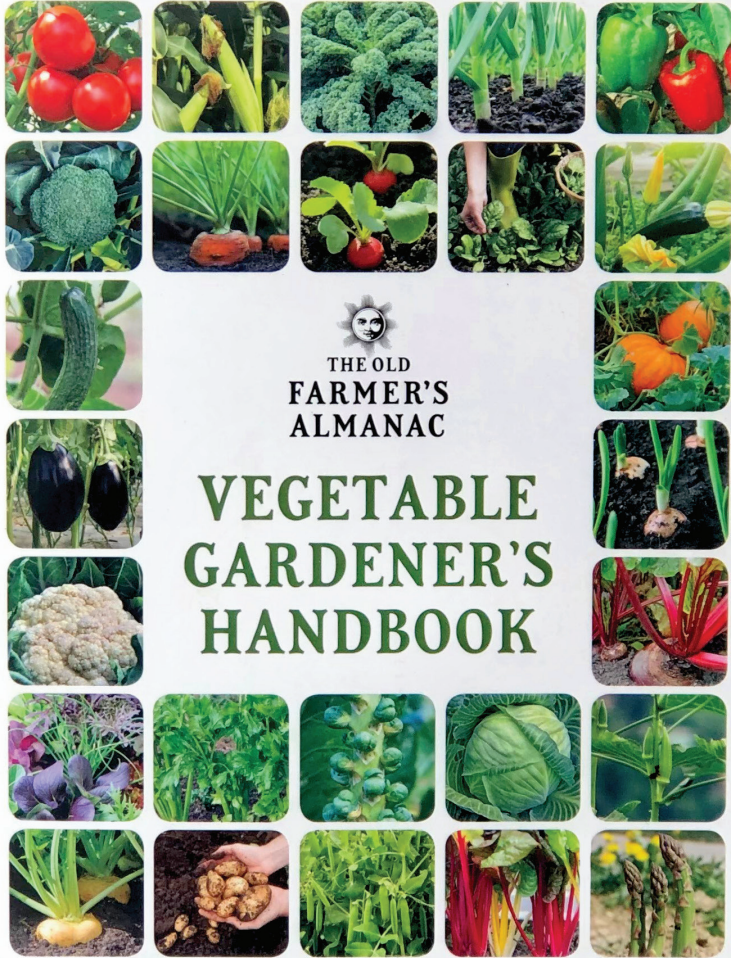
- In 1848, 16-year-old Homan Walsh **helped in the construction of a suspension bridge** across the 800-foot-wide gap and 225-foot-high cliffs of the turbulent Niagara River

at the Whirlpool Gorge. The chief engineer faced the challenge of stretching a line or wire across the gap, so he offered a cash prize to the first boy whose kite could land the line on the opposite bank. Walsh accomplished the task on his second attempt.

- On December 12, 1901, from his station on Signal Hill in St. John's, Newfoundland, **Guglielmo Marconi used a kite on a 500-foot tether (after a balloon blew away) to lift an antenna** to make his historic radio link between America and Cornwall, England, 2,200 miles away.
- In 1906, George Lawrence created a system of kites and wires that **carried a 49-pound panoramic camera 1,000 feet aloft to take aerial photographs** of the damage caused by the San Francisco earthquake.
- In November 1998, junior high school students in Aichi, Japan, **set the record for flying the most kites on one line** on Kojima Beach, with 15,585 kites.

What are you waiting for? Go out and ride the wind!

The perfect companion for every vegetable gardener




THE OLD
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VEGETABLE GARDENER'S HANDBOOK

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FOOD



Change Up Your Chicken Recipes

Chicken dishes are popular and budget-friendly—but but we all know that chicken can get boring. If you are tired of making the same chicken recipes, here are some different and flavorful options. For more chicken recipes, visit us at Almanac.com.

PHOTO: BECKY LUIGART-STAYNER

Chicken Satay



CHICKEN SATAY

- 3 pounds boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cut into cubes
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/4 cup soy sauce
- 1/4 cup orange juice
- 1/4 cup peanut butter
- 2 tablespoons minced onion
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon turmeric
- 1 teaspoon ground coriander
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes

Place chicken in a large, shallow bowl or baking dish. Combine remaining ingredients and pour over chicken. Marinate overnight in the refrigerator, stirring once or twice.

Prepare a grill or preheat the broiler.

Thread chicken onto skewers. Grill or broil the chicken for 5 to 7 minutes on each side.

Makes 6 to 8 servings.

FOOD



**Braised Chicken
Thighs With Mustard
Cream Sauce**

PHOTO: SAMANTHA JONES

BRAISED CHICKEN THIGHS WITH MUSTARD CREAM SAUCE

- 2 tablespoons (1/4 stick) unsalted butter
- salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- 6 chicken thighs
- 2 slices bacon, diced
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 rib celery, chopped
- 2 cups thinly sliced mushroom
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 cup chicken stock
- 3/4 cup dry white wine
- 2 tablespoons Dijon-style mustard, or to taste
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme or several sprigs fresh thyme
- 1/3 cup heavy cream

Melt butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Lightly salt and pepper the chicken, add to the skillet, and cook for 4 to 5 minutes on each side, or until browned, turning once. Transfer chicken to a platter.

Pour off most of the fat in the skillet, then add bacon. When it has rendered most of its fat, add onions, celery, and mushrooms. Stir and cook for 5 minutes, or until soft. Add garlic, stock, white wine, mustard, and thyme. Return chicken to skillet and bring to a simmer. Cover and simmer for 25 minutes. Remove from heat and let rest for 15 minutes. Transfer chicken to a platter.

Return skillet to heat and bring the sauce to a boil. Boil the liquid rapidly, until reduced by half. Add heavy cream and stir before removing skillet from heat. Serve the sauce over the chicken.

Makes 4 to 6 servings.

Spicy Sweet Bacon Chicken Tenders



SPICY SWEET BACON CHICKEN TENDERS

8 thick slices bacon

8 boneless, skinless chicken breast tenders

1/2 cup brown sugar

2 tablespoons chipotle chili powder

Preheat oven to 350°F. Get out a rimmed baking sheet.

Wrap a bacon slice around each chicken tender. Secure top and bottom of bacon with two toothpicks per tender.

In a shallow bowl, mix together brown sugar and chipotle chili powder. Roll bacon-wrapped chicken in mixture, then place on baking sheet. Bake for 35 minutes, or until chicken is fully cooked and bacon is crisp. (If bacon is not crispy, place under broiler.) Cool briefly on baking sheet, then roll in drippings and serve.

Makes 8 appetizer servings.

Looking for more great recipes? Get a copy of our best-selling cookbook with recipes from you, our readers. *The Old Farmer's Almanac Readers' Best Recipes* is filled with tried-and-true recipes that keep folks coming back for more, plus the stories behind them! Store.almanac.com/cookbook-readers-best-recipes

HUSBANDRY



Stock Options for Small Farms

Mini-breeds are just the right fit.

PHOTO: ARISSU/GETTY IMAGES

More and more people want to experience farm life—if only by keeping a few hens in the suburbs or bringing a dairy cow to a small acreage in the country. Diminutive breeds are a perfect choice for these small, or hobby, farms. Miniature animals mature at one-half to one-third the size of standard breeds, tend to be family friendly, and generally require less care and maintenance than their full-size relatives. We corralled a few for your inspection.

MINI-MOOS

Modern mini-bovines are descendants of 18th- and 19th-century stock, but with many breeds ranging in weight from 500 to 800 pounds and standing less than 42 inches tall at the hip, these cows are bred to be smaller than their ancestors.

- **Appeal:** Most people who get these want the old-fashioned milk cow.

- **Temperament:** From shy and retiring to extroverted and attention-seeking. Being smaller, they are less intimidating to children; a 7-year-old can milk a trained, docile, mini-dairy cow.

- **Benefits:** Milk production of 2 to 4 gallons per day, plus cream, and, if you are willing to make it, butter, cheese, cottage cheese, and yogurt.

- **Care and feeding:** Cows need to go roam around the pasture, eat grass, and lie in the sun. For a mini-milker, figure on at least half an acre. She will need a small barn or shed for milking, feeding, and shelter. Expect to give her about 2 to 4 percent of her body weight in hay, 2 pounds of grain,

and 1 to 2.5 percent of her body weight in water on average per day while milking.

- **Friendly advice:** A mini-moo requires as much work as a standard-breed cow.

PETITE POULTRY

Properly called “bantams,” these can be less than half the weight and size of standard-breed chickens; some hens weigh less than a pound. Bantams can be plain or wildly decorative, with feathers on their legs and feet and sweeping tails. Many standard breeds have a bantam equivalent, and there are also a few “true bantam” breeds, such as Dutch and Sebright, without a corresponding larger breed.

- **Appeal:** Some chicken owners find that watching their tiny flock’s behavior relaxes and cheers them.

- **Temperament:**

Bantams are big chickens in small packages. Some are friendly, even flying to their owner's hand or arm. Others are wild.

- **Benefits:** Bantam eggs are about half the size of standard-breed chicken eggs and are just as useful. Hens devour grubs, grasshoppers, and other pests, and their droppings make an excellent compost ingredient.

- **Care and feeding:** For a flock of six hens, plan on a 6x6-foot henhouse, with nest boxes, room to roost, and heat in winter, if necessary, plus an outdoor pen or run, covered to help protect them from prey. Hens need fresh food and water daily, and someone must collect the eggs. Roosters are unnecessary, unless you're breeding. It is important that bantams have access to fresh clean water and feed at all times. A flock will

welcome trimmings from vegetables, but they will leave it to you to clean up their leftovers to avoid attracting flies.

- **Friendly advice:**

Snakes, weasels, hawks, dogs, or other predators can easily decimate a flock. Bantams, like larger chickens, are susceptible to disease. Always wash your hands before and after handling chickens, for both their protection and yours.

HOBBY HORSES

Four centuries of selective breeding have created the miniature horse, an equine that stands up to 34 inches in height, weighs 150 to 350 pounds, on average, and is similar in proportion to a standard-size horse.

- **Appeal:** If large horses are intimidating and you can not or do not want to ride, minis are simply endearing.

- **Temperament:** Minis are intelligent and learn

tasks easily. Most are bred to be docile and friendly.

- **Benefits:** Some owners drive their minis in front of a cart or small carriage or use them as pack animals for hiking or backpacking trips, since most can carry up to 70 pounds.

- **Care and feeding:**

Two minis can graze comfortably on 1 acre. Even with pasture, give them at least a cup of grain twice a day. In winter, each needs 1.5 to 3 percent of its body weight in dry food per day. Have a dry, wind-resistant, run-in, 8x12-foot shelter. Most minis grow thick winter coats and will play happily outside, even in snow. A stall heater is unnecessary, even in the coldest areas.

- **Friendly advice:** A mini-horse is not a puppy. Learn about horses and prepare to spend time working with yours.

—Andrea Curry

LIVING NATURALLY



Eat Your Dandelions!

PHOTO: SBOSSERT/GETTY IMAGES

My mother dosed her family with generous amounts of dandelion greens as soon as she discovered their bright leaves poking up through the thatch of the back lawn.

One of nine siblings who grew up during the Depression on a Vermont dairy farm, Mom regaled us with many stories of the wild-food foraging that supplemented the self-reliant family diet. Dandelions, the first fresh greens of spring, ranked high on her list of important foraged foods.

I inherited my mother's dandelion fork, a simple wooden-handled tool with a steel shaft and a short, sharp fork at one end. Although sadly I somehow misplaced the fork and had to buy a new one (much inferior), I continue her tradition.

The trick to enjoying dandelion greens? Harvest them young

with their underground crowns attached and clean them well. Choose a spot that hasn't been sprayed or fertilized with agricultural chemicals or frequented by pets.

Harvest the spiky greens and their pale belowground crowns (which taste like artichoke hearts) as soon as you detect the tiny spiked leaves poking forth. Harvest the greens until the blossoms open (the unopened buds are yummy), after which the leaves become too bitter for most palates.

Angle your "weeding fork" down about an inch into the soil below the rosette of 3- to 6-inch greens and sever the crown where it joins the root. Then pull the entire rosette from the ground. Shake it free of dirt and remove as many of last year's slimy leaves as possible.

CLEANING DANDELIONS

Pay rigorous attention

to cleaning the grit and debris from inside the tightly formed crown. Swish the greens around in a deep pan through several changes of water. Then cut open the crowns without severing the leaves and scrape debris from each rosette before submerging the greens for a final rinse.

COOKING WITH DANDELIONS

Although I add the tiniest dandelion greens to fresh salads, I like them best when cooked with a couple of onions. I sauté chopped onions (and maybe a little garlic) in a bit of olive oil until they become translucent and then add the greens with a little rinse water clinging to them and steam until the greens are soft.

I also add dandelions to a spring- tonic soup that could include young nettles, parsley, spinach, kale, and chard cooked in well-seasoned chicken broth.



Also, a strong tea of dandelion blossoms used as a hair rinse adds shine and highlights to blond hair.

IN THE GARDEN

Dandelions' deep perennial taproots forage minerals and make them available for shallower-rooted crops. (Don't let too many get started, though, and pull the blossoms off in the

vegetable garden.)

In a lawn or field, the bright yellow flowers attract pollinators to the spring garden and provide an important early nectar source for many butterflies.

A FEW WORDS OF CAUTION

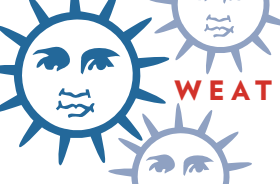
Make sure that you can identify dandelions with certainty before you harvest them. If you've

never eaten dandelions, prepare and eat a small number before you begin harvesting in earnest. Never harvest dandelions from lawns or other areas that have been treated with pesticides or other chemicals.

—Margaret Boyles



TAP TO READ MORE OF MARGARET BOYLES'S POSTS IN HER "LIVING NATURALLY" BLOG



WARM APRIL, GREAT BLESSING.

HOW WE MAKE OUR PREDICTIONS

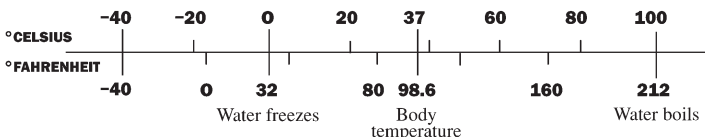
We derive our weather forecasts from a secret formula that was devised by the founder of this Almanac, Robert B. Thomas, in 1792. Thomas believed that weather on Earth was influenced by sunspots, which are magnetic storms on the surface of the Sun.

Over the years, we have refined and enhanced this formula with state-of-the-art technology and modern scientific calculations. We employ three scientific disciplines to make our long-range predictions: solar science, the study of sunspots and other solar activity; climatology, the study of prevailing weather patterns; and meteorology, the study of the atmosphere. We predict weather trends and events by comparing solar patterns and historical weather conditions with current solar activity.

Our forecasts emphasize temperature and precipitation deviations from averages, or normals. These are based on 30-year statistical averages prepared by government meteorological agencies and updated every 10 years. Our forecasts are based on the tabulations that span the period 1981 through 2010.

We believe that nothing in the universe happens haphazardly, that there is a cause-and-effect pattern to all phenomena. However, although neither we nor any other forecasters have as yet gained sufficient insight into the mysteries of the universe to predict the weather with total accuracy, our results are almost always very close to our traditional claim of 80 percent.

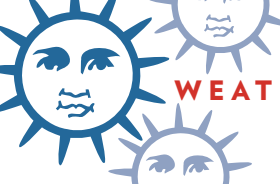
CELSIUS-FAHRENHEIT TABLE



TAP TO FIND OUT THE WEATHER HISTORY OF THE DAY

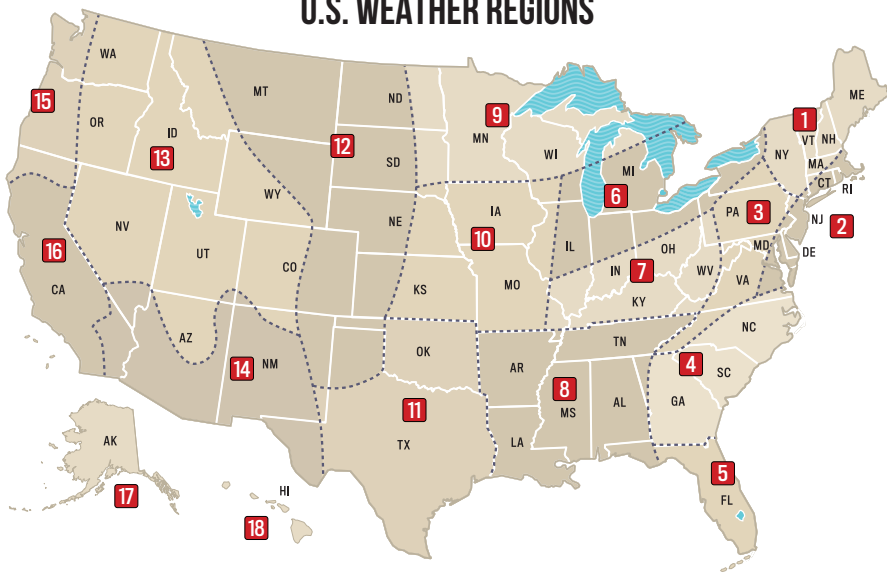


LOVE ALL THINGS WEATHER? TAP FOR THE WEATHER FOLKLORE OF THE DAY

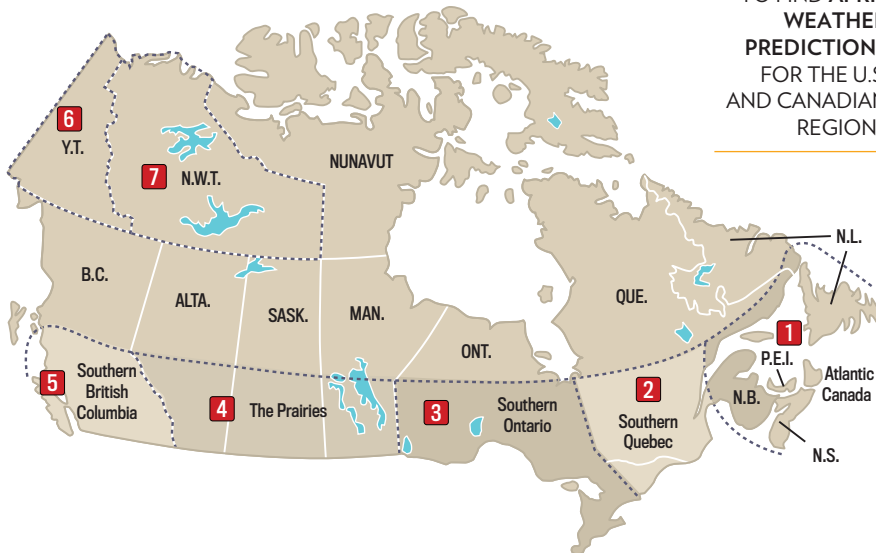


WEATHER FORECASTS

U.S. WEATHER REGIONS



CANADIAN WEATHER REGIONS



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WEATHER
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FOR THE U.S.
AND CANADIAN
REGIONS





WARMING UP TO APRIL

Only a fool would expect warm and sunny weather on April 1 across the Northeast, as the remnants of winter, refusing to give up, will bring chilly temps along with rain and snow to this region. Cool conditions will extend southward all the way to Florida, while the middle of the country enjoys sunshine and a warm-up. The Pacific Northwest will be rainy, while the Southwest will be sunny and warm. Canada's eastern provinces will be cold with snow and rain, while the Prairies enjoy sunshine and warmth and British Columbia is cool and wet.

On April 13, Thomas Jefferson's birthday, the weather will be warm with thunderstorms in Jeffersontown, Kentucky, and Jefferson City, Missouri, so people in these areas will need to keep an eye to the sky.

Folks heading out to Easter Sunday mass, parades, and Easter egg hunts on April 17 will need jackets and umbrellas across much of the eastern United States, as it will be rainy and cool. Much of the central and western portions of the nation will enjoy sunny and mild conditions, while it will be rainy across southern Alaska and much of Hawaii. In Canada, the eastern provinces will be cool and rainy while the West is sunny and mild.

Much of Texas will be sunny and warm on April 21, San Jacinto Day. If you're heading outdoors to parades and festivities, be sure to stay hydrated.

Earth Day, April 22, will see showers from the Atlantic Coast westward across the Ohio Valley through the Heartland into the High Plains. The Deep South



and Southwest will be sunny and warm. Umbrellas will come in handy along the West Coast, with rainfall from Washington State down into California. Unsettled weather will occur across much of Canada, with rounds of showers from Atlantic Canada across southern Ontario and the Prairies into British Columbia. Expect sunny and dry conditions over the Northwest Territories and snow flurries over the Yukon.

On April 24, we celebrate the birthday of the founder of *The Old Farmer's Almanac*, Robert B. Thomas. Wet weather will be the rule on that day across much of the United States and Canada, with the exception of Thomas Lake, Florida, where it will be sunny and dry.

April 29 is National Arbor Day, when rainfall for thirsty trees will be bountiful across much of the United States. One area that will be sunny and dry for tree-planting will be the Northeast. Elsewhere, thunderstorms will erupt from Florida and the Southeast across the Deep South into the southern Plains and the Heartland. The eastern provinces of Canada will see scattered showers and cool conditions, while rain will prevail across much of central and western Canada.

Overall, April temperatures will be warmer than normal across much of the United States. It will be drier than normal along the eastern seaboard and the Appalachians, as well as from the Heartland westward through the High Plains and Intermountain West into the Pacific Southwest. The month will be rainy from the Deep South into Texas and Oklahoma and across central and eastern portions of Hawaii. In Canada, April temperatures will be warmer than normal; the weather will be wetter than normal across southern Atlantic Canada and southern Ontario and from the Canadian Prairies into eastern British Columbia.

The early outlook for summer calls for warmer-than-average temperatures across much of the United States except for the Northeast and Upper Midwest, where it will be slightly cooler than normal. It will be rainier than normal from the Deep South northward across the western Ohio Valley. Showers will be abundant from the Heartland into the Lower Lakes and the Upper Midwest, as well as over the Intermountain West and Pacific Coast. The weather will be drier than normal across Alaska and the eastern half of Hawaii. In Canada, summer will be warmer than normal across Atlantic Canada and from British Columbia into the Yukon. Cooler-than-normal temperatures will be found from southern Quebec westward through the Prairies. The season will be wetter than normal across much of Canada, except for drier-than-normal conditions over the eastern Prairies. —Michael Steinberg, *Old Farmer's Almanac meteorologist*



HUMOR ME

GRINS AND GROANS FROM THE ALMANAC



A WEIGHTED RESPONSE

A clergyman visited a tippler in his flock to admonish him about drinking too much.

The man answered that the doctor had prescribed drinking

for him.

“Well,” asked the minister. “Has it done you any good?”

“I fancy that it has,” slurred the man. “When I got that keg a week ago, I could

hardly lift it, but now I can carry it all about the room.”

MULISH MENTION

A young man in a New England town wanted to start up a livery



business, so one of the first things that he did was to have a sign painted representing him holding a mule by the bridle. He was particularly proud of this stroke of business enterprise and asked of his wife: "Is this not a good likeness of me?"

"Indeed, it is a perfect picture of you," she replied, "but who is the fellow holding the bridle?"

A MATTER OF -AGE

On his expense report, an army officer listed "Porter, 10 cents."

He was ordered to report to the War Office, where he was told: "While executing public duty, refreshments such as porter and ale are not chargeable to the nation."

"The item does

not represent refreshments," replied the officer, "but a fee to a carrier."

"In that case, you should have used 'portorage,'" he was told.

Upon leaving the office, he had occasion to take a taxi—which he was careful to note as "Cabbage, 50 cents."

WILLFUL DECEIT

"I want to leave \$5,000 to each of my clerks who has been with me for 20 years or more," said the store owner to the lawyer who was drafting his will.

"Why, that's very generous of you!"

"Not really. Not one of them has been here more than a year as of right now, but it will look pretty good."

TIME WILL TELL

A young candidate for

office in an Indiana district was belaboring in the benefits that would begin to accrue if an administration that included him were voted into office. One by one, he extolled each coming gift of sweetness and light that was sure to arrive.

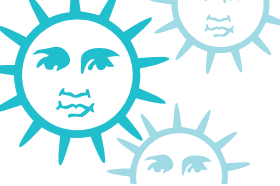
"We do not yet all have 3 acres and a cow, but it will come."

"Old-age pensions are still of the future, but they will come."

Similarly, every item in his comprehensive program was endorsed by the same parroted cry.

Eventually getting to prison reform, he began with "I have not yet personally been inside a criminal lunatic asylum, but—"

"—but it will come!" came a voice from the back.



WHAT'S NEXT



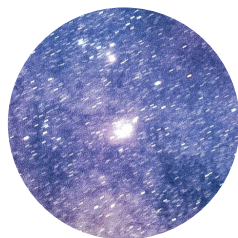
AMUSEMENT

The Wonders of Blunders



CALENDAR

Moon phases; May birthstone, holidays, and full Moon names



ASTRONOMY

Explore with our Sky Map



FOLKLORE

An A-to-Z alphabet of spices, with ancient and modern uses



FOOD

Prizewinning Recipes From the *Garden Guide*



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