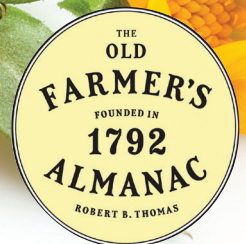


# EXTRA!

FROM THE OLD FARMER'S ALMANAC

WHAT IS THE SMALLEST THAT  
ANYTHING CAN BE?

THE UN(IN)TENDED GARDEN  
RECIPES FOR PEPPERS APLENTY  
MAKE AN HERBAL SALVE



AUGUST 2022

PHOTO: TIM UR/GETTY IMAGES

## FEATURES

### LIVING NATURALLY

Make an  
Herbal Salve

### FOOD

Recipes for  
Peppers Aplenty

### AMUSEMENT

What Is the  
Smallest That  
Anything Can Be?

### GARDENING

The Un(in)tended  
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Full Moon Names,  
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Sky Map for August

### WIT

Humor Me  
*Grins and groans  
from the Almanac*

### WHAT'S NEXT

See what we have  
in store for our  
September issue!



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# AUGUST

*Holidays, Full Moon Names, and More*



## EYE ON THE SKY

### AUGUST'S FULL MOON NAMES

Sturgeon Moon, Flying Up Moon,  
Ricing Moon

### MOON PHASES

**First Quarter:** August 5, 7:07 A.M. EDT

**Full Moon:** August 11, 9:36 P.M. EDT

**Last Quarter:** August 19, 12:36 A.M. EDT

**New Moon:** August 27, 4:17 A.M. EDT



TAP FOR MORE ABOUT MOON PHASES



TAP FOR MORE ABOUT AUGUST'S FULL MOON

## HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

**Aug. 1:** Civic Holiday (Canada)

**Aug. 19:** National Aviation Day

**Aug. 26:** Women's Equality Day



## AUGUST'S BIRTHSTONE: PERIDOT

The peridot, a gem form of the mineral olivine, appears in various shades of green, sometimes with a brown or yellow tinge. It is called “evening emerald” because it maintains its shining color in artificial light. Associated with the Sun in ancient times, peridot symbolizes happiness as well as strength and was said to protect the wearer from nightmares.

Love flowers? Order your copy of *The Old Farmer's Almanac Flower Gardener's Handbook* at [Almanac.com/Shop](http://Almanac.com/Shop) or Amazon.



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## BEST DAYS TO DO THINGS

These August 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: 4, 5

Ask for a loan: 17, 18

Begin diet to gain weight: 1, 6

Begin diet to lose weight: 14, 19

Buy a home: 4, 5

Color hair: 17, 18

Cut hair to discourage growth: 17, 18

Cut hair to encourage growth: 2, 3

Entertain: 24–26

Get married: 2, 3, 29, 30

Have dental care: 1, 27, 28



Move (house/household): 19–21

Perm hair: 11, 12

Quit smoking: 14, 19

Straighten hair: 6–8

Travel for pleasure: 24–26

Wean children: 14, 19

### AROUND THE HOUSE

---

Bake: 22, 23

Brew: 4, 5, 31

Can, pickle, or make sauerkraut:  
22, 23

Demolish: 4, 5, 31

Dry fruit, vegetables, or meat: 15, 16

End projects: 26

Lay shingles: 24–26

Make jams or jellies: 13, 14

Paint: 2, 3, 29, 30

Start projects: 28

Wash floors: 13, 14

Wash windows: 15, 16

### OUTDOORS

---

Begin logging: 9, 10

Go camping: 6–8

Go fishing: 1–11, 27–31

Set posts or pour concrete: 9, 10

### IN THE GARDEN

---

Destroy pests and weeds: 15, 16

Graft or pollinate: 22, 23

Harvest aboveground crops: 1, 4, 5

Harvest belowground crops: 17, 18

Mow to promote growth: 4, 5

Mow to slow growth: 17, 18

Pick fruit: 1, 27, 28

Plant aboveground crops: 4, 5

Plant belowground crops: 22, 23

Prune to discourage growth: 24–26

Prune to encourage growth: 6–8

### ON THE FARM

---

Breed animals: 4, 5, 31

Castrate animals: 11, 12

Cut hay: 15, 16

Purchase animals: 22, 23

Set eggs: 10–12, 19, 20

Slaughter livestock: 4, 5, 31

Wean animals: 14, 19



## GARDENING BY THE MOON'S SIGN

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

TAP FOR  
MERCURY IN  
RETROGRADE  
DATES



TAP FOR  
AUGUST  
MOON PHASES



**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 AUGUST

**1** Virgo

**2** Libra

**3** Libra

**4** Scorpio

**5** Scorpio

**6** Sagittarius

**7** Sagittarius

**8** Sagittarius

**9** Capricorn

**10** Capricorn

**11** Aquarius

**12** Aquarius

**13** Pisces

**14** Pisces

**15** Aries

**16** Aries

**17** Taurus

**18** Taurus

**19** Gemini

**20** Gemini

**21** Gemini

**22** Cancer

**23** Cancer

**24** Leo

**25** Leo

**26** Leo

**27** Virgo

**28** Virgo

**29** Libra

**30** Libra

**31** Scorpio



## 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 remaining 2022 retrograde periods: **September 9–October 1** and **December 28–(January 18, 2023)**.

—Celeste Longacre

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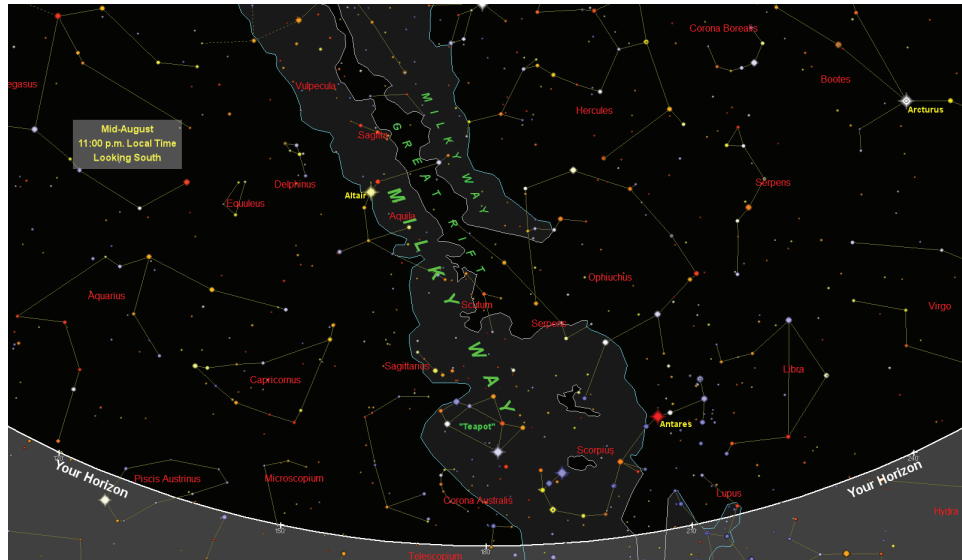
Celebrating its 45th anniversary in 2022, the best-selling Old Farmer's Almanac Gardening Calendar is filled with beautiful art, helpful tips, insightful quotes, and an easy-to-use grid with holidays and Moon phases. Order yours today at [Almanac.com/Shop](https://www.almanac.com/shop).

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## METEORS AND THE MILKY WAY

Every year in August, we welcome the Perseid Meteor Shower to our skies. The Perseids are one of the best meteor showers of the year, and they reach their peak on the night of August 12–13.

Known as shooting stars, meteors appear as brief streaks of light when small space rocks called meteoroids plunge into Earth’s atmosphere. Friction with the atmosphere heats the meteoroids to the point where they burn up, each creating a bright flash that we call a meteor.

Most meteoroids are no larger than grains of sand, but occasionally pieces of a big one survive the fiery trip through the atmosphere to reach the ground. These surviving fragments are known as meteorites.

In summary, when moving through space, a tiny rock is a *meteoroid*. When we see it burn up in Earth’s atmosphere, it’s a *meteor*. If any part of the object survives its passage



TAP TO GET  
A PRINTABLE  
AUGUST  
SKY MAP



TAP TO  
FOLLOW  
OHIOAN JEFF  
DETRAY’S SKY  
ADVENTURES





through the atmosphere and reaches the ground, it's a *meteorite*.

Several times a year, Earth passes through streams of cosmic debris. When this happens, we may be treated to a meteor shower in which the number of meteors jumps dramatically to anywhere from 10 to 100 meteors per hour.

In the case of the annual Perseid Meteor Shower, every August, Earth encounters debris left behind by Comet Swift-Tuttle, which was discovered in 1862. As Earth plows through the cometary debris, each little particle appears in the sky as a momentary streak of light—a meteor.

Perseid meteors can appear anywhere in the sky, so your best viewing strategy is to recline or lie on the ground and look toward the darkest and most unobstructed region of the sky. A sleeping bag or air mattress makes meteor watching a *lot* more comfortable.

If you watch the Perseids from a truly dark location, use the opportunity to also observe one of the night sky's most magnificent sights—the summer Milky Way, which is the galaxy in which our Sun and all of its planets are located.

From our vantage point within the galaxy, it appears as a huge, shimmering cloud of light arching from the southern horizon to high overhead. It glows with the combined light of billions upon billions of faraway stars, each too faint for our eyes to resolve. Added together, these myriad stars produced the soft glow that we see as the Milky Way.

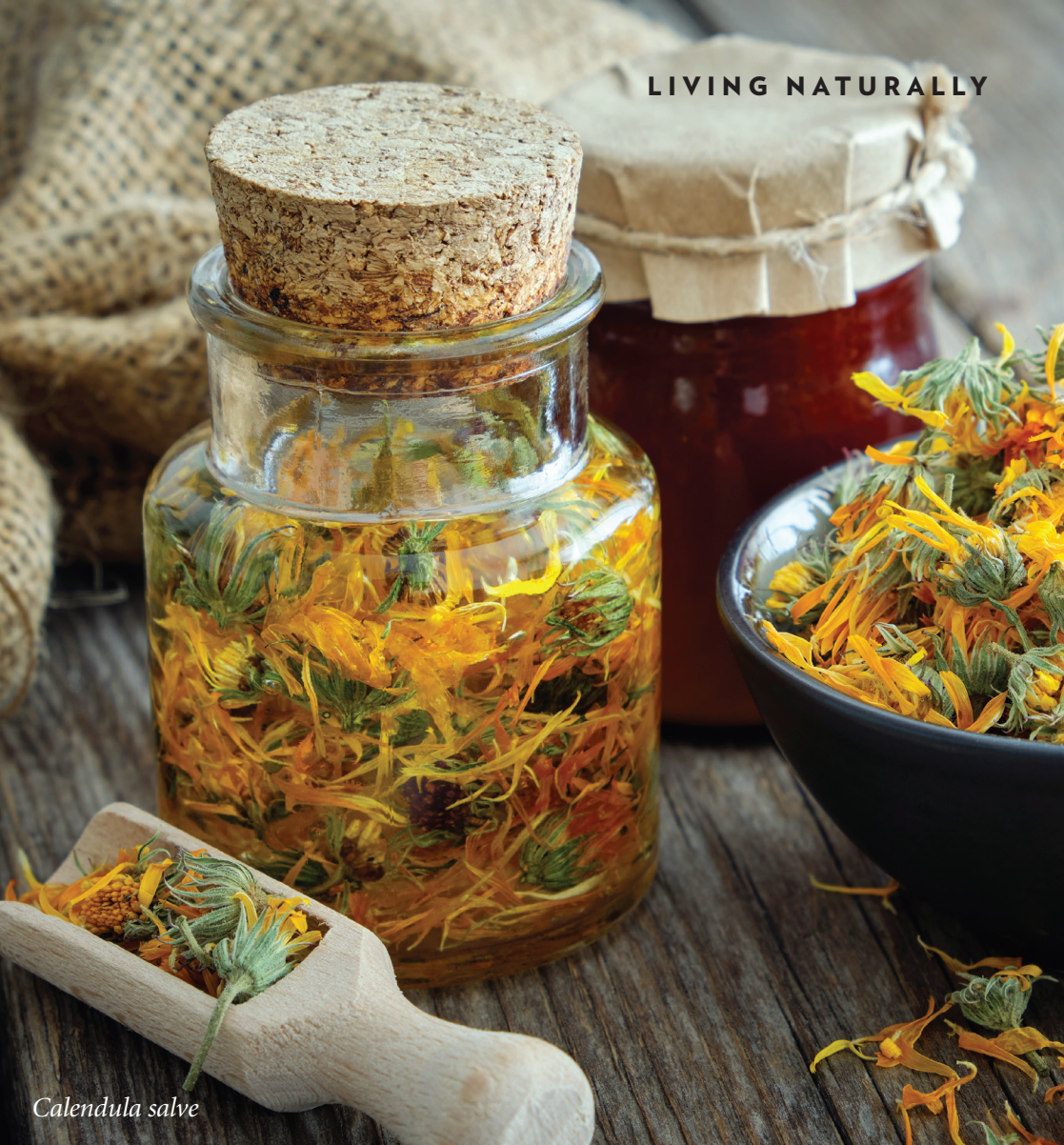
Sadly, the increase in light pollution over the past century has turned the Milky Way from a common sight into one that many folks have never seen. In 1994, when the Northridge earthquake knocked out power (and therefore light) to Los Angeles, emergency centers received calls from concerned citizens who reported a “giant silvery cloud” hovering over the city. Was it dangerous? Not to worry: The city dwellers were merely seeing the Milky Way for the first time in their lives!

You need a dark location to observe the Milky Way in all its glory. A typical suburban neighborhood won't be sufficiently dark. Moonlight, security lights, and streetlights are enough to spoil the view. From a properly dark, moonless viewing site, you can see the huge, hazy band of the Milky Way and maybe even the Great Rift, a large, dark strip of cosmic dust and gas that hides part of the Milky Way and appears to divide it in two, as shown on this month's Sky Map.

A meteor shower lasts just a night or two, but the Milky Way is on display every night of the year, and it's especially grand in the summer. Find yourself to a really dark spot and check it out!

—Jeff DeTray

LIVING NATURALLY



*Calendula salve*

# Make an Herbal Salve

PHOTO: CHAMILLEWHITE/GETTY IMAGES

## LIVING NATURALLY

**H**erbal salves (a term often used interchangeably with ointments, creams, balms, and unguents—I've never found definitions that differentiate them clearly) have come down through the ages as the premier household first-aid for scrapes, burns, wounds, itches, stings, bruises, diaper rashes, and more.

Often expensive to buy, they're relatively cheap and easy to make.

Summer is a great time of year to try your hand at it. Many healing herbs are in full leaf and blooming, concentrating their active healing constituents in their aboveground parts. (Fall is a good time to make root-based salves.)

I like to start with an herb-infused oil, which involves slightly wilting and then chopping and bruising the leaves or flowers that I've collected, packing them

loosely into a clean glass jar, and covering them with oil. I cover the top of the jar with a piece of cheesecloth or a coffee filter secured with a rubber band. This lets moisture that would otherwise spoil the salve escape from the jar.

Then I just leave the jar on a sunny windowsill for 2 or 3 weeks, shaking or stirring the infusion whenever I think of it, which is usually once or twice a day. I use a long wooden spoon for stirring.

When the herbs have infused long enough, I strain the plant material out with a cheesecloth, catching the oil in a glass pitcher and then twisting the end of the cloth to squeeze as much oil as possible from the leafy material.

The final step: melting pure beeswax (use a double boiler on the stove or a heatsafe cup within a glass bowl in the microwave) and then adding it to the infused

oil in a ratio of about five parts oil to one part melted wax. Stir with a wooden spoon and store in a sterilized glass or metal container.

It's easy to adjust the consistency of a salve by adding a bit more oil to make it more spreadable or a bit more beeswax to thicken or harden it. Homemade salves without any preservative agents will last about 6 to 8 months at room temperature out of direct heat and sunlight. Refrigerated, they'll keep for a year or more.

Today, I'm making a general-purpose household salve of comfrey and plantain leaves—the comfrey is in bloom at the edge of my vegetable garden, and the plantain grows abundantly in the lawn. I added the chopped leaves to a combination of grapeseed and coconut oil, although I could have used olive, sunflower, sesame, or an exotic (and expensive) nut oil.



*Comfrey salve*

Our ancestors didn't have access to pressed oils; they made their healing ointments from bear grease, lard, and other animal fats, which reportedly have healing powers of their own.

I also could have used burdock, lemon balm, yarrow, selfheal, or one of dozens of wild and cultivated plants that flourish around here. Later in the season, I plan to make flower salves from mullein, calendula, and St. John's wort. It's fun to

experiment and learn about the herbs and their uses as you go.

Although herbalists no longer recommend comfrey for internal consumption, it enjoys wide renown as a wound healer (in fact, it helps new skin to form so fast that herbalists don't recommend using it for deep wounds that require slow healing). Plantain enjoys equal renown as an anti-itch, anti-inflammatory herb.

My comfrey-plantain salve is versatile. I'll use

it on itches and stings, chapped hands and lips, cracked heels, ragged cuticles, and nicks, cuts, and scrapes. It also works wonders on diaper and heat rash.

*One caution:* Clean and disinfect a fresh wound and wait for it to stop bleeding before applying any salve. You don't want to seal in an infectious agent.

—Margaret Boyles



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

FOOD



# Recipes for Peppers Aplenty

*Some like 'em hot . . . peppers, that is! There are around 50,000 different varieties of peppers grown throughout the world. Surely, there is one with the right heat and flavor for you. Whether you like them hot, sweet, pickled, or poppered, we have the recipes that you need. Find more at [Almanac.com/cooking](http://Almanac.com/cooking).*

PHOTO: BECKY LUIGART-STAYNER



FOOD

# Stuffed Jalapeños

PHOTO: SAMANTHA JONES/QUINN BREIN



## STUFFED JALAPEÑOS

**8 ounces (1 package) cream cheese, softened**

**2 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese**

**1 clove garlic, minced**

**16 jalapeños, halved and seeded**

**crushed french-fried onions, for topping**

Preheat oven to 350°F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

In a bowl, combine cream cheese, cheddar, and garlic.

Fill pepper halves with cheese mixture and place on prepared baking sheet. Top with french-fried onions and bake for 15 minutes.

**Makes 16 servings.**



FOOD

# Golden Romesco

PHOTO: BECKY LUGART-STAYNER



## GOLDEN ROMESCO

**2 yellow or golden tomatoes**

**2 yellow bell peppers**

**1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil, divided**

**2 cloves garlic**

**3/4 cup sliced blanched almonds, toasted**

**kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste**

Preheat oven to 425°F. Line a baking sheet with aluminum foil.

Slice tomatoes in half and place cut sides up on foil. Set whole bell peppers on foil. Roast for 40 minutes, rotating peppers at least twice, or until brown spots appear on peppers' skin and tomatoes are soft. Set aside.

When cool enough to handle, remove and discard skins and seeds from tomatoes and peppers; remove stems from peppers.

In a skillet over medium heat, warm 1 tablespoon of olive oil. Mash garlic and add to skillet. Cook until lightly toasted.

Put toasted almonds into a food processor and process until powdery. Add tomatoes, peppers, garlic, and remaining oil and process until smooth. Season with salt and pepper.

**Makes 2 to 3 cups.**

# Strawberry Mango Salsa





## STRAWBERRY MANGO SALSA

- 1/2 red onion, cut into thin slivers
- 1/2 cup fresh lemon juice, or as needed
- 1 jalapeño, seeded and finely chopped
- 1 pound fresh strawberries, cut into 1/4-inch pieces
- 1 mango, cut into 1/4-inch pieces
- 1/2 red bell pepper, finely diced
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro
- salt, to taste

Place onions in a bowl of cool water for 5 minutes. Drain water and put onions directly into a serving bowl. Cover onions with lemon juice.

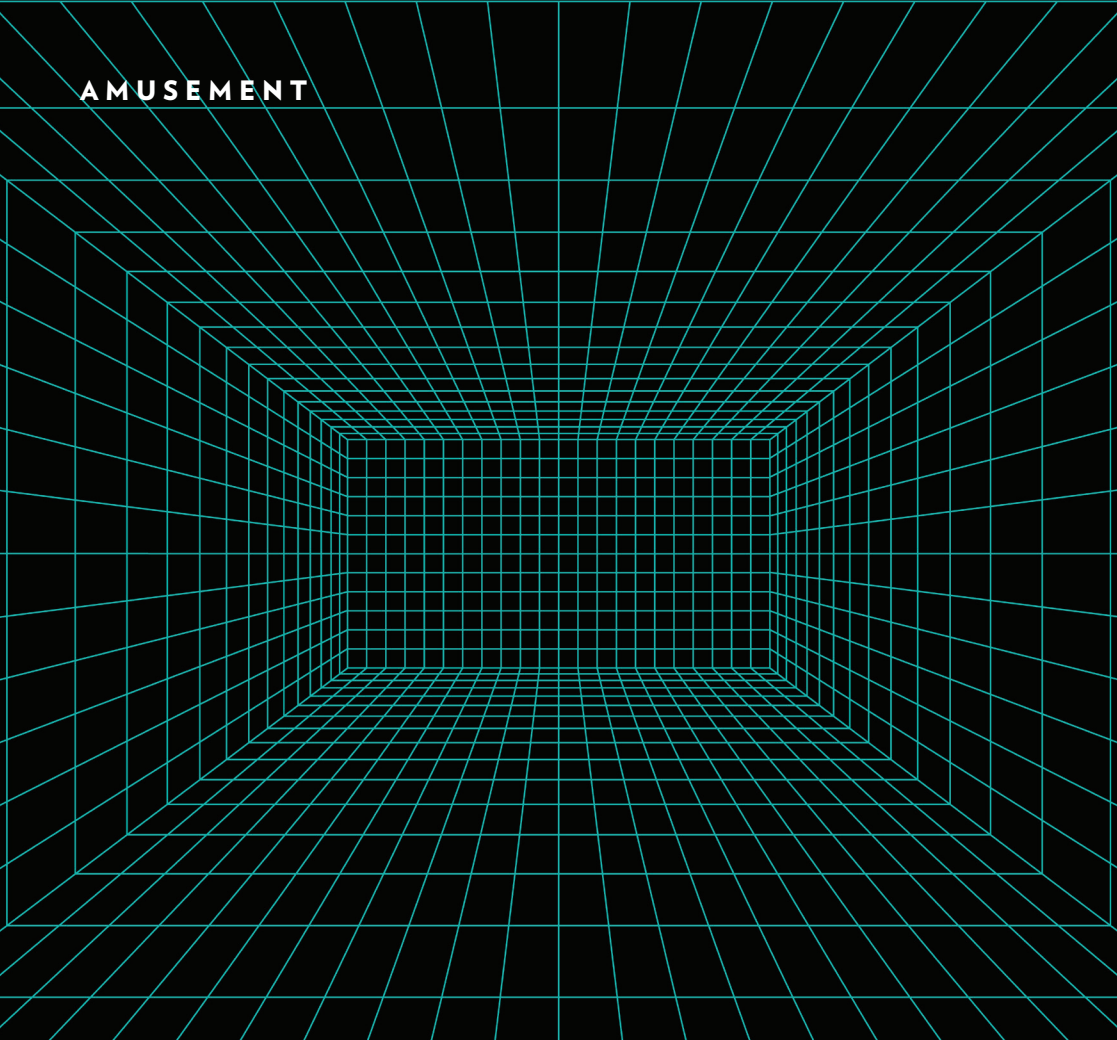
Add jalapeños, strawberries, mango, bell peppers, and cilantro. Stir and season with salt.

Let salsa rest for at least 30 minutes to allow flavors to blend.

**Makes 4 to 6 cups.**

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/](http://Store.almanac.com/cookbook-readers-best-recipes/)

AMUSEMENT



# What Is the Smallest That Anything Can Possibly Be?

*Hint: It's way smaller than a yoctometer.*

PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES





GARDENING



# The Un(in)tended Garden

*A lesson in letting nature have her way*

PHOTO: KOZOROG/GETTY IMAGES



**D**ozens of sunflowers ran amok throughout my August garden. Tall, midsize, and miniature cultivars, multibranched and single-flowered, they exploded with color: pale lemon, buttery gold, bright yellow, bronze, burnt umber, burgundy, brick, purple, mahogany, and creamy white.

They shaded a patch of midsummer salad crops, arranged themselves into bouquets above the ferny asparagus, arose like sentinels over the pumpkin patch and the buckwheat cover crop, and paired up eloquently with the towering, purple-headed milk thistles. Their pyrotechnics took my breath away.

Yet I hadn't planned this spectacle. In fact, I hadn't planted sunflower seeds for close to a decade. They began volunteering the year I forgot to pull out the stalks in the fall. Spread by visiting birds, winter snow and ice, and spring

winds and heavy rains, the sunflower seeds sprouted willy-nilly the following May, leaving me the minor task of a little judicious thinning and transplanting and the wonder of watching them grow.

After this, I began “forgetting” to pull out my sunflowers on purpose. I began “forgetting” to pull out other annual and biennial crops as well, transforming a strategy of benign neglect into a magical game I call “un(in)tended gardening”: seeing just how much food, beauty, and delight spring forth by letting things go with minimal tending—a little thinning, a little transplanting, a little mulching.

### HOW MY GARDEN GREW

**M**y un(in)tended garden now occupies about one-quarter of my half-acre garden plot. Early in the

season, before I can gather peas and asparagus, it serves up an abundant spring harvest of tender ‘Red Russian’ kale shoots and tiny cabbages, not much bigger than brussels sprouts, that grow from the ugly brown stumps of the previous year’s plants.

At the height of the season, my garden spills over with un(in)tended bounty. In the very center rises a dense prairie of self-seeded salad greens, culinary herbs, and edible weeds: arugula, coriander, dill, parsley, several kinds of leaf lettuce, spinach, winter cress, three or four pungent Asian greens whose names I’ve long forgotten, pigweed, lamb’s-quarters, milkweed, wild mustard, chickweed, and purslane.

Unlike the parts of my garden that I sowed intentionally, this patch contains plants at every stage of maturity: new seedlings, crops at their peak of succulence, many plants in full flower, and some, dying back, spilling

## GARDENING

seeds from mature seed heads to the ground.

From the edges of my none-too-tidy compost pile, half a dozen ‘Buttercup’ squash vines and as many cantaloupes extend exuberantly into the surrounding hay field, sprouted from rotting fruit that I tossed away last fall. There are maturing squashes and half a dozen good-size melons that look as if they might beat the mid-September frost.

In the lower right-hand corner of the garden, six volunteer zucchini plants poke up here and there amid an irregular bed of un(in)tended ‘Roma’ tomatoes. Upslope of the tomatoes, volunteer zinnias and cosmos edge their way into an expanse of perennial and self-seeded medicinal herbs: feverfew, comfrey, echinacea, sage, valerian, and a few towering milk thistle plants at the outer margins of the area.

You, too, can cultivate an un(in)tended garden. Here’s how . . .

### TIPS FOR AN UN(IN)-TENDED GARDEN

**W**hen you plant seeds, be sure that they’re nonhybrid (aka standard) seed varieties, so that you won’t see a reversion back to the parent strains. The negative results from letting hybrid varieties self-seed—for example, a squash that finds its gourd lineage—could cause you to lose interest in the whole process.

Maintain your un(in)tended garden in healthy soil that is high in organic matter. This will provide just the right conditions for rapid germination and better growth of self-seeding plants.

Ironically, you should do a little planning. For instance, give a big area over to your vining crops—cucumbers, pumpkins, and squashes—so that they can run out along the perimeter of the garden and not interfere too much with other crops.

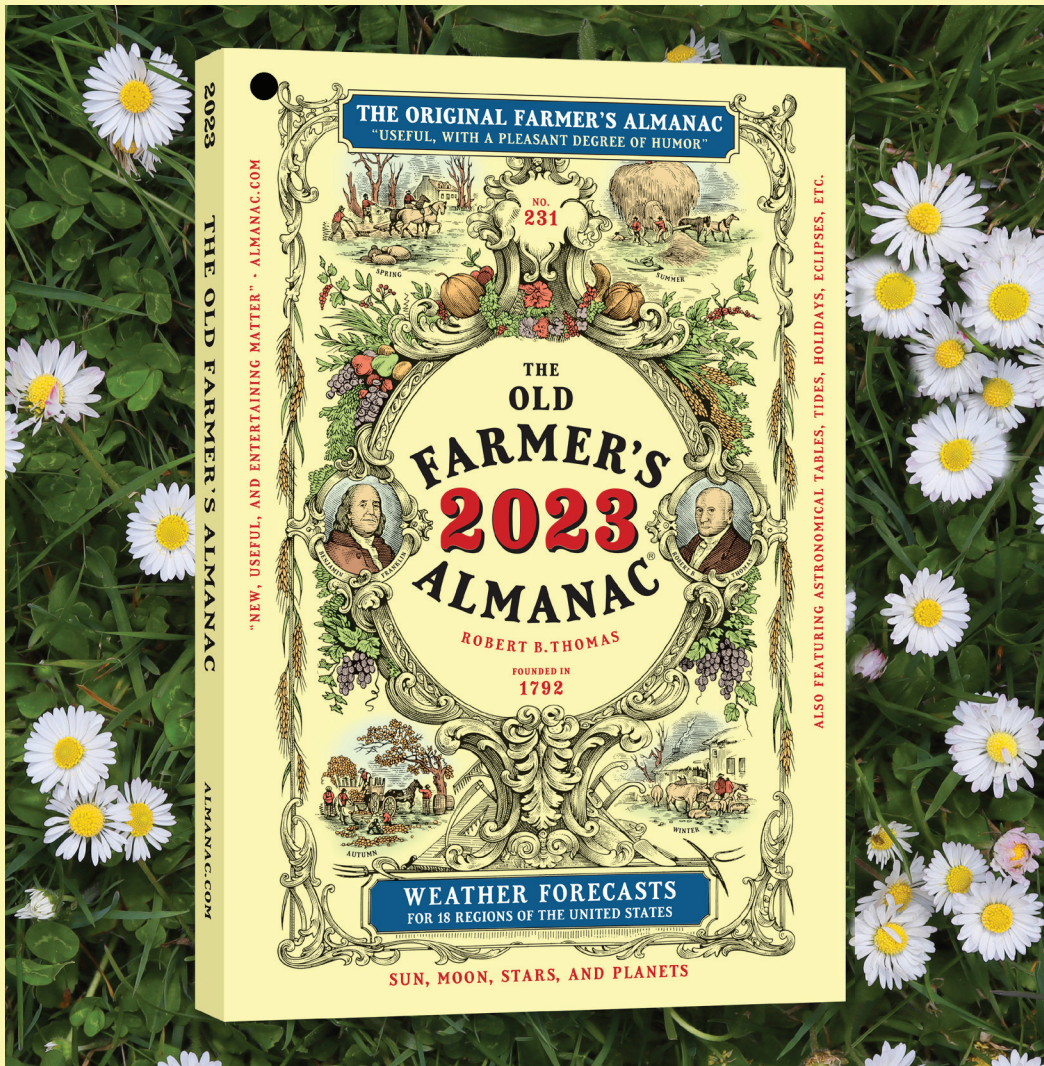
Cluster plants with

similar growth habits.

Maintain certain parts of your garden landscape where your un(in)tended garden can flourish. In this way, you won’t disturb its germination and growth processes with your spring tillage and the cultivation of your planted crops.

For maximum success, encourage overwintered crops to self-seed—especially warm-weather crops such as squashes, tomatoes, and pumpkins. Spread 2 to 4 inches of finely chopped organic mulch over the un(in)tended areas of the garden, where you’ve purposefully left ripe fruit or seed stalks as the basis for the following year’s harvest. Leaves are usually easy to come by, and they don’t harbor weed seeds. If you shred or chop them well (run over them several times with the lawn mower), they’ll break down readily in the garden, adding a good dose of the organic matter that you’ll want to maintain in your soil.

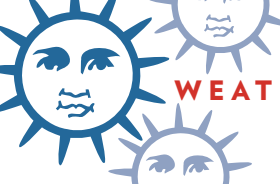
—Margaret Boyles



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# WEATHER FORECASTS

FOR EVERY FOG IN AUGUST, THERE WILL BE A SNOWFALL IN THE FOLLOWING WINTER.

## 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.

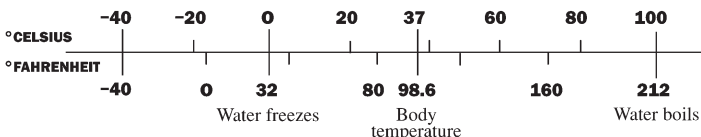


TAP TO FIND OUT THE WEATHER HISTORY OF THE DAY

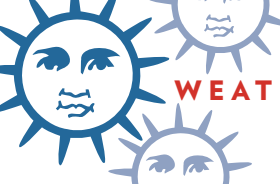


LOVE ALL THINGS WEATHER? TAP FOR THE WEATHER FOLKLORE OF THE DAY

### CELSIUS-FAHRENHEIT TABLE

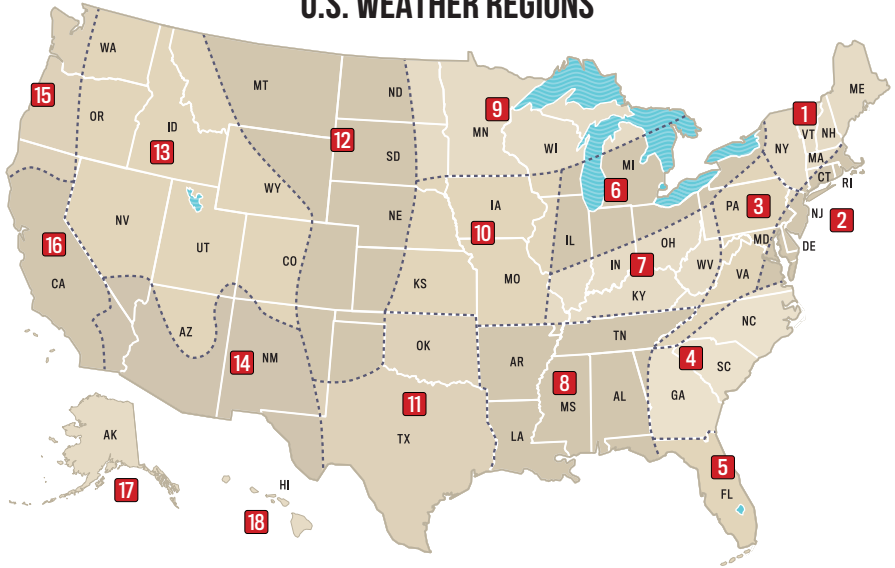






# WEATHER FORECASTS

## U.S. WEATHER REGIONS



## CANADIAN WEATHER REGIONS



CLICK HERE TO  
FIND AUGUST  
WEATHER  
PREDICTIONS  
FOR THE U.S.  
AND CANADIAN  
REGIONS





## AUGUST WEATHER “ALL OVER THE MAP”

**O**n August 1, when Colorado Day will again be celebrating the 38th state to join the Union, the weather will be warm across the Centennial State, with scattered thunderstorms mainly during the afternoon and evening.

Middle Child Day, August 12, will bring cool temperatures with scattered thunderstorms to the middle of the U.S.

August 15, Discovery Day in the Yukon, marks the first gold strike, in 1896, of what would become the Klondike Gold Rush. Temps across the territory will be warm, with golden sunshine and possibly a rare shower.

On the next day, August 16—Bennington Battle Day in Vermont—there will be a truce between a heat wave and flooding downpours, so folks there can expect mild conditions with an isolated shower.

August 19 is National Aviation Day in the United States. Pilots will have to steer clear of thunderstorms from the Appalachians through the Deep South and southern Florida, as well as across the Upper Midwest and Heartland. Soaring temperatures will make a landing over the Lower Lakes, Deep South, and Texas.

August 26, Women’s Equality Day in the United States, will find equal shares of above-normal warmth and



thunderstorms across much of the nation. Exceptions will be sunny, hot, and dry conditions across the Tennessee Valley, Montana, Arizona, and California, and cool and rainy weather over the Upper Midwest.

August temperatures will be hotter than normal, on average, from the eastern seaboard westward across the Appalachians and Tennessee and Ohio Valleys and through the Plains and Rockies all the way to the West Coast. It will be cooler than normal from the Upper Midwest through North Dakota. Rainfall will be above normal across much of the United States but below normal over the Appalachians, southern portions of Texas and Alaska, and eastern Hawaii. Canadian weather will be warmer than normal across the Maritimes, southern British Columbia, and the Yukon and cooler elsewhere. Rainfall will be below normal across the Northwest Territories and Yukon and near to above normal elsewhere across the country.

Autumn temperatures in the United States will be warmer than normal across much of the country, except for cooler than normal over northern New England, the Southeast, and the Pacific Northwest. Autumn rainfall will be above normal over the Northeast and mid-Atlantic states, across the Deep

South, from the Lower Lakes through the Upper Midwest and Heartland, and across the Pacific Northwest and southern California; it will be near or below normal elsewhere. In Canada, autumn temperatures will be warmer than normal from southern Ontario through the Prairies and across the Northwest Territories and the Yukon and near to below normal elsewhere. Autumn rainfall will be above normal from the southern Maritimes through southern Ontario, across the Prairies and southern British Columbia, and over the Northwest Territories and below average elsewhere.

Hurricane season officially runs through November. While we expect near- or above-normal activity, 2022's storm count will fall just a bit short of that of the 2021 hurricane season. The best chance for a major hurricane strike will be in Georgia or the Carolinas in mid-September and over the Maritimes in early to mid-October. We also expect tropical storm threats along the Texas coast in mid- to late June, across the Deep South in mid- to late July, over Georgia or the Carolinas in mid- to late August, and across the Deep South again in late October.

—*Michael Steinberg*, Old Farmer's Almanac *meteorologist*





# HUMOR ME

## GRINS AND GROANS FROM THE ALMANAC



### OFFICE LESSONS

Famous statesman Elihu Root sometimes told the story of how he had once tried to correct the manners of

the office boy in his law practice. One morning, the young man came into the office and, tossing his cap on a hook, exclaimed:

“Say, Mr. Root, there’s a ball game down at the park today, and I want to go down.”

Now, the great lawyer



was willing that the boy should go, but he thought that he should teach him a little lesson in good manners first.

“James,” he said, “that isn’t the way to ask a favor. Now, you sit down in my chair and I’ll show you how to do it properly.”

As the boy sat down in Root’s chair, the lawyer took the kid’s cap and stepped outside. He then opened the door softly and, holding the cap in his hand, said quietly to the small boy in the big chair:

“Please, sir . . . there is a ball game at the park today. If you can spare me, I would like to get away for the afternoon.”

In a flash, the boy responded:

“Why, certainly, Jimmy! And here’s 50 cents to pay your way in!”

### WAKE-UP CALL

Walt was putting in his first night shift as a hotel porter. It was 5:00 in the morning, and thus far he had been getting along splendidly as he did everything exactly as told.

It now being time for guests’ wake-up call-outs outside their door, the night manager commanded Walt to “Call 17 and 4.” Walt obeyed. After he had been gone for a considerable time, the manager went up to see if he had alerted the two rooms designated.

“Well,” sighed the new porter, who was found on the third

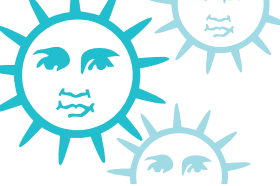
floor, “I got 17 of ’em up, but I haven’t started on the other four yet.”

### BULK DATE

At a certain college in Ohio, the male students were not allowed to visit the coeds. One day, a young man was caught in the act of doing so and brought to the dean’s office.

“Young man, listen carefully,” said the dean. “The penalty for the first offense is a fine of 50 cents; for the second, \$2.50; for the third, \$5; and so on, up to \$15. I admonish you to think carefully before doing this again. Do you have any questions?”

In solemn tones, the trespasser replied: “How much would a season ticket cost?”



# WHAT'S NEXT



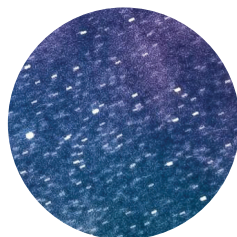
## ASTRONOMY

6 Tried-and-True  
Telescope Tips



## CALENDAR

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



## ASTRONOMY

Explore with  
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## GARDENING

Compost 101—  
Lessons in  
Decomposition



## FOOD

Irresistible  
Zucchini Recipes



## LIVING NATURALLY

Are You Sleeping  
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