

# EXTRA!

FROM THE OLD FARMER'S ALMANAC

## STATE SONG HIT PARADE, N-Z

PLUS: • Best Days to Do Things • Gardening by the Moon's Sign  
• Monthly Calendar • Astronomy • Weather

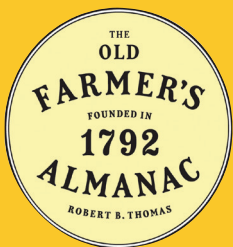
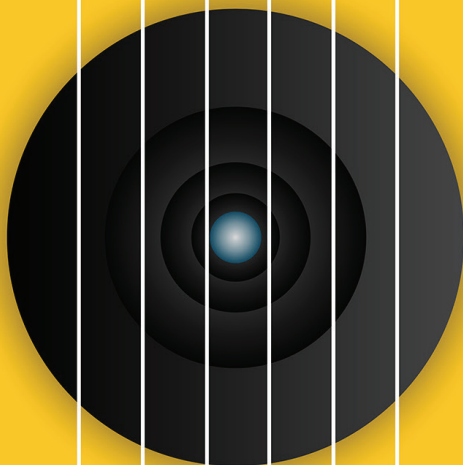


ILLUSTRATION: PIXABAY

JUNE 2023

# JUNE

*Holidays, Full Moon Names, and More*

## CALENDAR THIS 'N' THAT

The month of June likely was named for the Roman goddess Juno, patroness of marriage and the well-being of women. The name ultimately may have come from the Latin *juvenis*, meaning “youth.”

## HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

**June 1:** First day of Pride Month

**June 5:** World Environment Day

**June 6:** D-Day

**June 14:** Flag Day

**June 18:** Father's Day

**June 19:** Juneteenth National Independence Day

**June 21:** Summer Solstice

**June 21:** National Indigenous Peoples Day (Canada)



## EYE ON THE SKY

### JUNE'S FULL MOON NAMES

Strawberry Moon, Birth Moon,  
Hoer Moon

### MOON PHASES

**Full Moon:** June 3, 11:42 P.M. EDT

**Last Quarter:** June 10, 3:31 P.M. EDT

**New Moon:** June 18, 12:37 A.M. EDT

**First Quarter:** June 26, 3:50 A.M. EDT



TAP FOR MORE ABOUT MOON PHASES



TAP FOR MORE ABOUT JUNE'S  
FULL MOON

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.

# Garden Planning Season Has Begun!



Your dream garden  
is just a tap away.  
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online Garden Planner.

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## BEST DAYS TO DO THINGS

These June 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*

### AROUND THE HOUSE

Bake: 18–20

Brew: 1, 2, 28, 29

Can, pickle, or make sauerkraut:  
9, 10

Demolish: 1, 2, 28, 29

Dry fruit, vegetables, or meat:  
11–13

End projects: 2

Lay shingles: 21, 22

Make jams or jellies: 9, 10

Paint: 26, 27





Start projects: 19

Wash floors: 9, 10

Wash windows: 11–13

## OUTDOORS

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Begin logging: 5, 6

Go camping: 3, 4, 30

Go fishing: 1–3, 18–30

Set posts or pour concrete: 5, 6

## ON THE FARM

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Breed animals: 1, 2, 28, 29

Castrate animals: 7, 8

Cut hay: 11–13

Purchase animals: 18–20

Set eggs: 7, 8, 26

Slaughter livestock: 1, 2, 28, 29

Wean animals: 11, 15

## IN THE GARDEN

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Destroy pests and weeds: 11–13

Graft or pollinate: 18–20

Harvest aboveground crops: 23–25

Harvest belowground crops: 14, 15

Mow to promote growth: 1, 2, 28, 29

Mow to slow growth: 14, 15

Pick fruit: 23–25

Plant aboveground crops: 1, 2, 28, 29

Plant belowground crops: 9, 10

Prune to discourage growth: 11–13

Prune to encourage growth: 3, 21, 22

## PERSONAL

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Advertise to sell: 1, 2, 28, 29

Ask for a loan: 14, 15

Begin diet to gain weight: 3, 25

Begin diet to lose weight: 11, 15

Buy a home: 28, 29

Color hair: 14, 15

Cut hair to discourage growth: 14, 15

Cut hair to encourage growth: 26, 27

Entertain: 21, 22

Get married: 26, 27

Have dental care: 23–25

Move (house/household): 16, 17

Perm hair: 7, 8

Quit smoking: 11, 15

Straighten hair: 3, 4, 30

Travel for pleasure: 21, 22

Wean children: 11, 15



## GARDENING BY THE MOON'S SIGN

Use the June 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  
JUNE 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 JUNE

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

## 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.

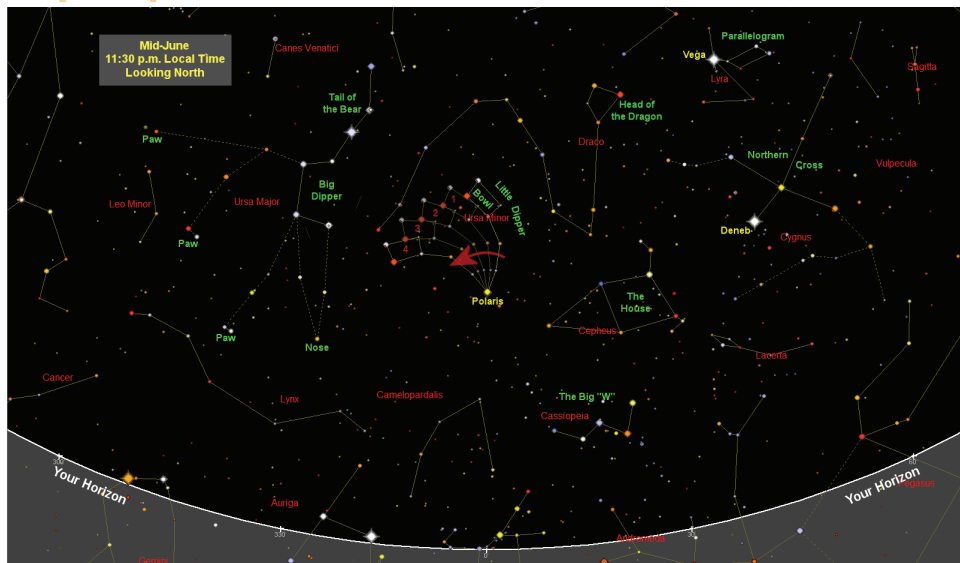
When Mercury is retrograde, remain flexible, allow extra time for travel, and avoid signing contracts. Review projects and plans at these times, but wait until Mercury is direct again to make any final decisions.

Mercury's remaining 2023 retrograde periods: **August 23–September 14** and **December 13–(January 1, 2024)**.

–*Celeste Longacre*

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Celebrating its 46th anniversary in 2023, 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).



## SECRETS OF THE COSMIC CLOCK

Objects in the sky always appear to be moving. The Sun and Moon rise in the east and set in the west. Less obviously, the stars and constellations also rise and set each day. Like clockwork, every celestial object marches across the sky from east to west and in 24 hours returns to its starting point. The discovery that nearly all of this apparent motion is caused by Earth rotating on its axis is one of humankind's greatest scientific achievements.

Nowhere is this clocklike behavior more evident than in the northern sky. Take advantage of the pleasant June weather to watch the Cosmic Clock in action.

You'll need a nice, dark location away from bright city lights. Wait until at least 11:30 p.m.; the June sky isn't fully dark until then. Be prepared to stay up late and to devote at least 2 full hours to stargazing. Give your eyes at least 20 minutes to become adapted to the dark and then look due

 TAP TO GET  
A PRINTABLE  
JUNE SKY MAP

 TAP TO  
FOLLOW  
OHIOAN JEFF  
DETRAY'S SKY  
ADVENTURES





north to find Polaris, the North Star, less than halfway up the sky. It's the only bright star in the area.

Look above Polaris to follow a curving line of three dim stars until you reach a small starry rectangle. You've just traced the handle and bowl of the Little Dipper, which appears to be standing on end. Note how the bowl is located directly above Polaris. If you think of Polaris as the center of a clock face, then the bowl is pointing straight up, like the hour hand of a clock set to 12:00.

With the position of the Little Dipper firmly in mind—perhaps after making a simple sketch—spend the next hour or so enjoying the other celestial sights. We'll get back to the Cosmic Clock shortly.

For now, look to the left for the constellation Ursa Major, the Greater Bear, which appears to be standing on its nose in this view. The bear's rump and tail are better known as the Big Dipper, but from a dark location you can make out its entire body, from its legs and paws to the tip of its nose.

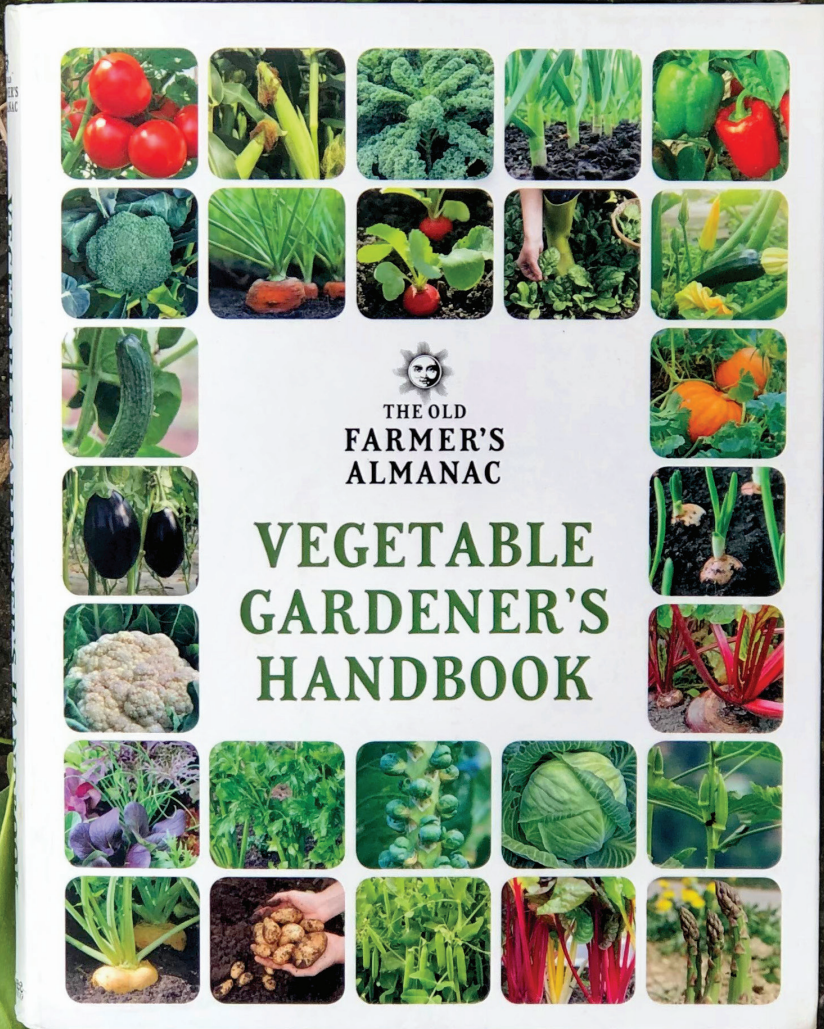
To the right and near the horizon, look for the Big W shape of Cassiopeia, the Queen, and above her, King Cepheus, in the shape of a child's sketch of a house. Above them both is the head of Draco, the Dragon, whose body winds in an S-shape that curves above the Little Dipper. Look to the right of Draco for the perfect little Parallelogram in the constellation Lyra, the Lyre. Below Lyra lies the (nearly) upside-down Northern Cross, whose stars comprise the body of Cygnus, the Swan.

Assuming that an hour has passed, go back to our starting point, the Little Dipper. Note how the whole constellation has rotated slightly counterclockwise around Polaris and is now in the position labeled "1." Wait another hour, and the Little Dipper will have rotated further to position "2." This clocklike motion will continue throughout the night. The Sky Map shows the Little Dipper's position for 4 consecutive hours.

Importantly, it's not just the Little Dipper that appears to rotate around Polaris. The *entire sky* moves in the same circular path, with Polaris at its center. This is all due to Earth's rotation, which gives us our days, our nights, and our Cosmic Clock.

—Jeff DeTray

Created for new gardeners, green thumbs, and old hands alike!



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AMUSEMENT



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# State Song Hit Parade, N-Z

*How many of these have you heard of before?*



**E**very state anthem has a story, so enjoy these interesting facts about the songs from states whose names fall in the second half of the alphabet, namely Nebraska through Wyoming. (Alabama through Montana are presented in a different article.)

- **NEBRASKA:** “Beautiful Nebraska” (adopted in 1967). Originally credited to Jim Fras, a Russian refugee who moved there in 1952, this tune outlasted a subsequent movement to replace it with “I Love Nebraska.” Research during the song debate revealed that Fras had had help with the lyrics from Nebraska poet Guy Miller, who was given co-credit in 2008.
- **NEVADA:** “Home Means Nevada” (1933). The song’s composer, Bertha Raffetto, sang it to the public 187 times in 3 months during her campaign to have it named the state song.
- **NEW HAMPSHIRE:** “Old New Hampshire” (1949). Subsequent to its approval by the state legislature, nine other songs have been added as “honorary state songs” over the years.
- **NEW JERSEY:** The state has no official state song, although composer Red Mascara (Joseph Rocco Mascari) lobbied for 55 years to have his “I’m From New Jersey” adopted, beginning in 1960. An attempt to have New Jersey native Bruce Springsteen’s “Born to Run” named the “unofficial rock theme” failed in 1980.
- **NEW MEXICO:** “O, Fair New Mexico” (1917). Blind singer-songwriter Elizabeth Garrett, who wrote this song, was the daughter of Sheriff Pat Garrett, who shot and killed the outlaw William Bonney—better known as “Billy the Kid.”
- **NEW YORK:** “I Love New York” (1980). Composer Steve Karmen, who wrote this song to promote tourism in New York in 1977, is known as the “King of Jingles.” He has also written jingles for cars, beer, insurance companies, and chewing gum. Governor Hugh Carey named it the state song in 1980.
- **NORTH CAROLINA:** “The Old North State” (1927). Written in 1835, this song was publicly performed for William Henry Harrison during the 1840 presidential campaign.
- **NORTH DAKOTA:** “North Dakota Hymn” (1947). Sung to the tune of “Austrian Hymn,” this song’s words were written



by James W. Foley.

There is also a state march, “The Flickertail March,” named for the Richardson’s ground squirrel, which has a habit of flicking its tail while running.

• **OHIO:** “Beautiful Ohio” (1969). In 1985, the state legislature named “Hang On, Sloopy” the official state rock song, noting that “WHEREAS, Adoption of this resolution will not take too long, cost the state anything, or affect the quality of life in this state to any appreciable degree, and if we in the legislature just go ahead and pass the darn thing, we can get on with more important stuff.”

• **OKLAHOMA:** “Oklahoma!” (1953). The title song from the 1943 Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein Broadway hit was adopted as the state song 10 years later.

• **OREGON:** “Oregon, My Oregon” (1927) won a statewide contest in 1920. Its composer, Henry Murtaugh, played the organ for silent movies.

• **PENNSYLVANIA:** “Pennsylvania” (1990). Although the commonwealth was founded in 1681 and was one of the original 13 states, Pennsylvania had a state dog (Great Dane), state insect (firefly), and state fossil (*Phacops rana*) before it adopted a state song.

• **RHODE ISLAND:** “Rhode Island’s It For Me” (1996). When comedian Charlie Hall, who often pokes fun at his state, was challenged to write something good about Rhode Island, he came up with this.

• **SOUTH CAROLINA:** “Carolina” (1911); “South Carolina on My Mind” (1984). Henry Timrod,

who wrote the lyrics to “Carolina,” died in 1867, long before his Civil War poem was set to music. “South Carolina on My Mind” was written by two South Carolina natives, Hank Martin and Buzz Arledge.

• **SOUTH DAKOTA:** “Hail! South Dakota” (1943). Written and composed by South Dakota native DeeCort Hammitt, this song was chosen from among 158 entries as the winner of a statewide contest.

• **TENNESSEE:** “My Homeland, Tennessee” (1925). This is the earliest of the state’s 10 official songs, which include the well-known “Tennessee Waltz” (1965) and the barely known “Tennessee Bicentennial Rap” (1996).

• **TEXAS:** “Texas, Our Texas” (1929). Until Alaska became a state in

## AMUSEMENT

1959, this song referred to Texas as “the largest.” Now it says “the boldest.”

• **UTAH:** “Utah, This Is the Place” (2003). The title quotes Brigham Young on his arrival in the Salt Lake Valley with a party of Mormon pioneers in 1847.

• **VERMONT:** “These Green Mountains” (2000). This replaced “Hail, Vermont” (1938), which was deemed “unsingable.”

• **VIRGINIA:** “Our Great Virginia” (2015); “Sweet Virginia Breeze” (2015). After nearly two decades without a song, the commonwealth now has two. “Our Great Virginia” is the state’s traditional song, while “Sweet Virginia Breeze” now holds the title of “official popular song.”

• **WASHINGTON:** “Washington, My Home”

(1959). In 1985, there was a grassroots effort to adopt as the state song “Louie Louie,” a 1957 rock tune written by Richard Berry and popularized by Rockin’ Robin Roberts, The Wailers, and The Kingsmen.

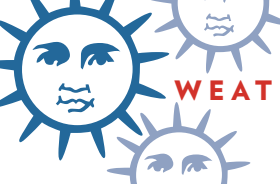
• **WEST VIRGINIA:** Although “West Virginia, My Home Sweet Home” was recognized as the first state song in 1947, it is now one of four, along with “The West Virginia Hills” (1961), “This Is My West Virginia” (1963), and “Take Me Home, Country Roads” (2014).

• **WISCONSIN:** “On, Wisconsin” (1959). This famous fight song would have inspired athletes of the University of Minnesota had not lyricist Carl Beck persuaded his songwriting partner,

William Purdy, to dedicate it to Wisconsin instead. John Philip Sousa called it the best college song that he ever had heard.

• **WYOMING:** “Wyoming” (1955); “Wyoming Where I Belong” (2018). Although “Wyoming” would not be officially recognized for another 52 years, Charles Winter’s words to it were originally written in 1903. Wyoming natives—and twin singer-songwriters—Annie and Amy Smith wrote “Wyoming Where I Belong” in honor of their family’s deep connection to the Cowboy State.

–*Almanac editors*



# WEATHER FORECASTS

WHEN IT IS HOTTEST IN JUNE, IT WILL BE COLDEST ON THE SAME DAYS OF THE NEXT FEBRUARY.

## HOW WE MAKE OUR PREDICTIONS

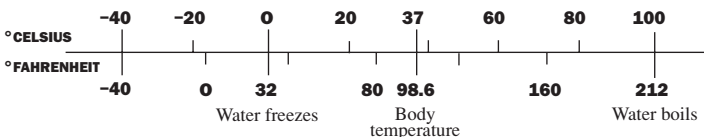
We derive our weather forecasts from a secret formula that was devised by the founder of this Almanac, Robert B. Thomas, in 1792. Thomas believed that weather on Earth was influenced by sunspots, which are magnetic storms on the surface of the Sun.

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 1991 through 2020.

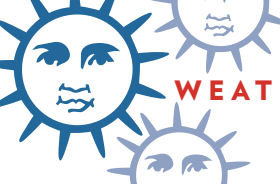
We believe that nothing in the universe happens haphazardly, that there is a cause-and-effect pattern to all phenomena. However, although neither we nor any other forecasters have as yet gained sufficient insight into the mysteries of the universe to predict the weather with total accuracy, our results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

### CELSIUS-FAHRENHEIT TABLE



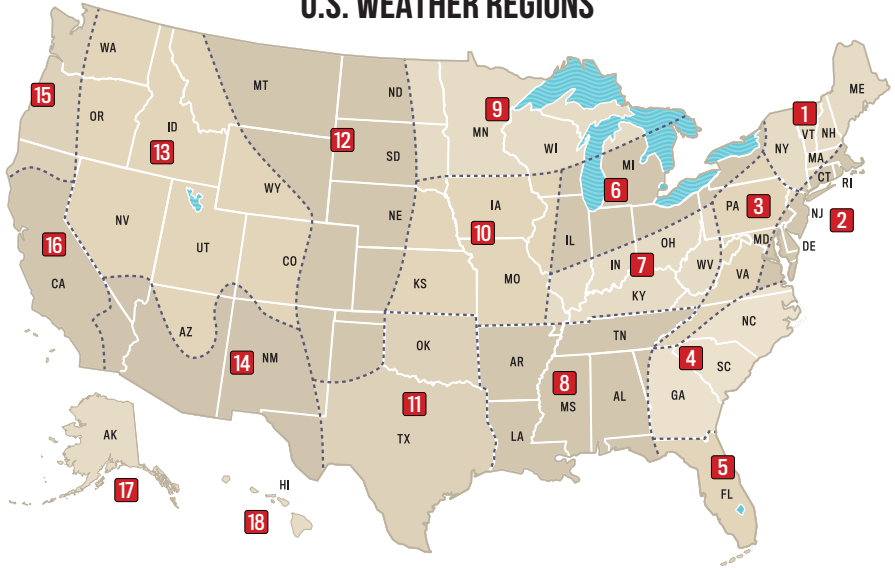
TAP TO FIND OUT THE WEATHER HISTORY OF THE DAY

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



# WEATHER FORECASTS

## U.S. WEATHER REGIONS



## CANADIAN WEATHER REGIONS



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







## BUSTIN' OUT ALL OVER!

If you have any outdoor plans for June 5, World Environment Day, you'd be well advised to keep the rain gear handy, as there will be showers from the U.S. East Coast into the Appalachians; across the Deep South, Great Lakes, and other parts of the Midwest; from the High Plains through the northern Rockies into the Pacific Northwest; and across Alaska. Expect sunny and dry weather for planting trees or cleaning up trash from the Heartland southward into Texas and westward through California. Canadians should plan for showers over the eastern and central provinces and sunny, dry weather in southern British Columbia and the Northwest Territories.

On June 12, Hawaii's King Kamehameha I Day, parades and grand celebrations will run into some rain in the eastern islands, while central and western locales will see only a few showers.

Plans for taking Dad out and about on June 18, Father's Day, may be impacted by showers and thunderstorms across much of the country, except for areas from the mid-Atlantic coast through the Ohio Valley and from Texas through Arizona to the Pacific Southwest, where sunny and dry conditions will prevail. Expect to keep the umbrella handy if you are in Atlantic Canada or anywhere from southern Ontario through southern British Columbia.

June 21 marks the summer solstice, the astronomical start of summer. Expect warm to hot temperatures and pop-up thunderstorms across most of the United States, except for sunny and dry conditions from the Appalachians down into northern Florida and from the southern Plains into southern California.



Showers and thunderstorms will be the norm over much of Canada, except for the sunny and mild conditions that will prevail over southern Yukon.

For the month of June, temperatures will be hotter than normal across Florida and the Deep South, from the Ohio Valley and the Upper Midwest through the Plains, from the Desert Southwest through California and up into the Pacific Northwest, and across eastern Hawaii; they will be near to below normal elsewhere. Rainfall will be above normal from the Northeast down along the mid-Atlantic Coast, across the western Great Lakes and Ohio Valley into the Upper Midwest, along the Gulf Coast, and across the northern Rockies, Alaska, and Hawaii; precipitation will be near to below normal elsewhere. In Canada, temperatures will be above normal in Atlantic Canada and from the Prairies through southern British Columbia and near to below normal elsewhere. Rainfall will be above average for the Yukon and Northwest Territories and near to below normal in other locales.

Summer temperatures, on average, will be cooler than normal across the northern and central Rockies and Great Basin and along the central and southern California coast and near to above normal elsewhere. Rainfall will be above normal from New England down through the mid-Atlantic coast, the Upper Midwest southward through the Deep South, the northern Rockies through the Pacific Northwest, and the Desert Southwest to the southern California coast, as well as across Alaska and Hawaii; it will be near to below normal elsewhere. Temperatures in Canada will be warmer than normal across much of the country, with the exception of cooler-than-normal conditions in the Northwest Territories. Precipitation will be below normal from Atlantic Canada through southern Quebec and portions of southern Ontario and across the central and eastern Prairies and near to above normal elsewhere.

The Atlantic hurricane season officially begins on June 1. In 2022, an oddly quiet period in July and August meant a more normal hurricane season. We expect 2023 to feature near- or slightly below-average activity, with a neutral to weak El Niño replacing the current La Niña. Watch for tropical storms to strike Texas in late July and then again in mid- to late August, when the Deep South will also be threatened. Up north, Atlantic Canada should be on the lookout for a tropical storm or hurricane hit in late August.

*–Bob Smerbeck and Brian Thompson, Old Farmer’s Almanac  
meteorologists*