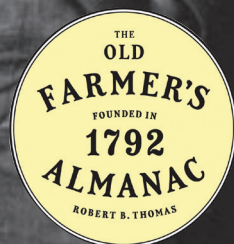


EXTRA!

FROM THE OLD FARMER'S ALMANAC

A MAN AND HIS CAMERA
RECIPES TO WELCOME SPRING!
CATCHING RAIN THE SMART WAY



MARCH 2023

PHOTO: MIKE DISFARMER

FEATURES

AMUSEMENT

A Man and
His Camera

FOOD

Recipes to
Welcome Spring!

GARDENING

Catching Rain the
Smart Way

LIVING NATURALLY

Hot Flashes: Symptom
or Power Surge?



WEATHER FORECASTS

How We Make
Our Predictions

March U.S.
and Canadian
Weather Forecasts

Weather Update

WIT

Humor Me
*Grins and groans
from the Almanac*

DEPARTMENTS

CALENDAR

March Holidays,
Full Moon Names,
and More

ASTROLOGY

Best Days to
Do Things

Gardening by
the Moon's Sign

ASTRONOMY

Sky Map
for March



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THE OLD
FARMER'S
ALMANAC

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MARCH

Holidays, Full Moon Names, and More

CALENDAR THIS 'N' THAT

The ancient Roman calendar, which ultimately led to the Gregorian calendar that many use today, once began its year in March (then called “Martius” and named for Mars, the Roman god of war).

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Mar. 8: International Women’s Day

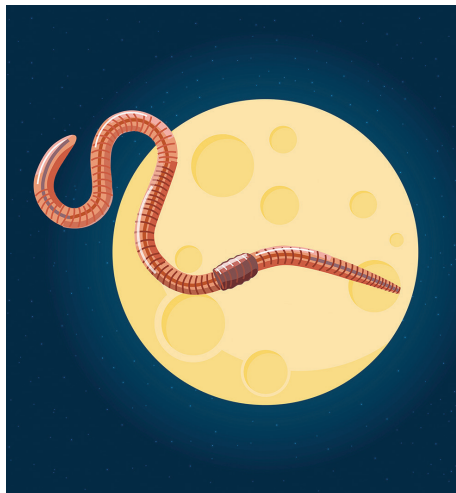
Mar. 12: Daylight Saving Time begins at 2:00 A.M.

Mar. 17: St. Patrick’s Day

Mar. 20: Vernal Equinox (at 5:24 P.M. EDT)

Mar. 22: Ramadan begins at sundown

Mar. 31: César Chávez Day



EYE ON THE SKY

MARCH'S FULL MOON NAMES

Worm Moon, Goose Moon,
Sore Eye Moon

MOON PHASES

Full Moon: Mar. 7, 7:40 A.M. EST

Last Quarter: Mar. 14, 10:08 P.M. EDT

New Moon: Mar. 21, 1:23 P.M. EDT

First Quarter: Mar. 28, 10:32 P.M. EDT



TAP FOR MORE ABOUT MOON PHASES



TAP FOR MORE ABOUT MARCH'S
FULL MOON

The 2023 *Old Farmer's Almanac* calendars are here! Order yours at [Almanac.com/Shop](https://www.almanac.com/shop).



BEST DAYS TO DO THINGS

These March 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: 24, 25

Ask for a loan: 11, 12

Begin diet to gain weight: 25, 30

Begin diet to lose weight: 8, 12

Buy a home: 24, 25

Color hair: 24, 25

Cut hair to discourage growth:
8–10

Cut hair to encourage growth: 24, 25

Entertain: 3–5

Get married: 8–10

Have dental care: 6, 7

Move (house/household): 26, 27



Perm hair: 17, 18
Quit smoking: 8, 12
Straighten hair: 13, 14
Travel for pleasure: 3–5
Wean children: 8, 12

AROUND THE HOUSE

Bake: 1, 2, 28–30
Brew: 11, 12
Can, pickle, or make sauerkraut: 11, 12, 19, 20
Demolish: 11, 12
Dry fruit, vegetables, or meat: 13, 14
End projects: 6
Lay shingles: 3–5
Make jams or jellies: 19, 20
Paint: 8–10
Start projects: 22
Wash floors: 19, 20
Wash windows: 21–23

OUTDOORS

Begin logging: 15, 16
Go camping: 13, 14
Go fishing: 1–7, 21–31

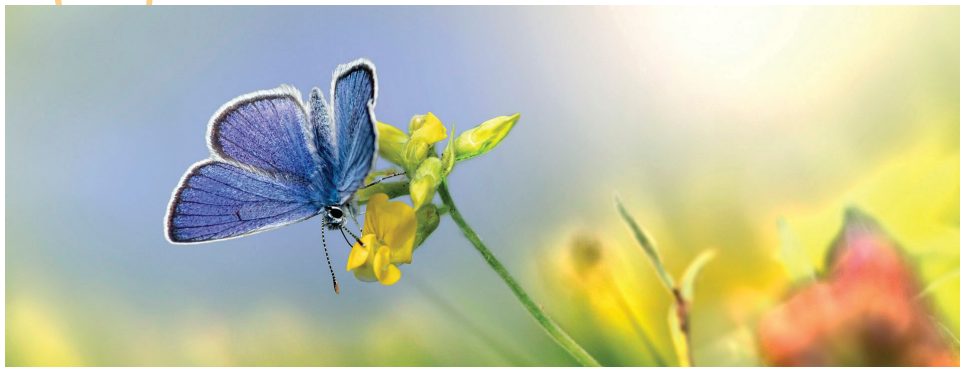
Set posts or pour concrete: 15, 16

IN THE GARDEN

Destroy pests and weeds: 21–23
Graft or pollinate: 1, 2, 28–30
Harvest aboveground crops: 6, 24, 25
Harvest belowground crops: 15, 16
Mow to promote growth: 1, 2, 28–30
Mow to slow growth: 11, 12
Pick fruit: 6, 7
Plant aboveground crops: 1, 2, 28–30
Plant belowground crops: 11, 12
Prune to discourage growth: 13, 14
Prune to encourage growth: 3–5, 31

ON THE FARM

Breed animals: 11, 12
Castrate animals: 17, 18
Cut hay: 21–23
Purchase animals: 1, 2, 28–30
Set eggs: 7–9
Slaughter livestock: 11, 12
Wean animals: 8, 12



GARDENING BY THE MOON'S SIGN

Use the March 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 MARCH

1 Cancer
2 Cancer
3 Leo
4 Leo
5 Leo
6 Virgo
7 Virgo
8 Libra

9 Libra
10 Libra
11 Scorpio
12 Scorpio
13 Sagittarius
14 Sagittarius
15 Capricorn
16 Capricorn

17 Aquarius
18 Aquarius
19 Pisces
20 Pisces
21 Aries
22 Aries
23 Aries
24 Taurus

25 Taurus
26 Gemini
27 Gemini
28 Cancer
29 Cancer
30 Cancer
31 Leo



TAP FOR
**MERCURY IN
 RETROGRADE
 DATES**



TAP FOR
**MARCH
 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*.

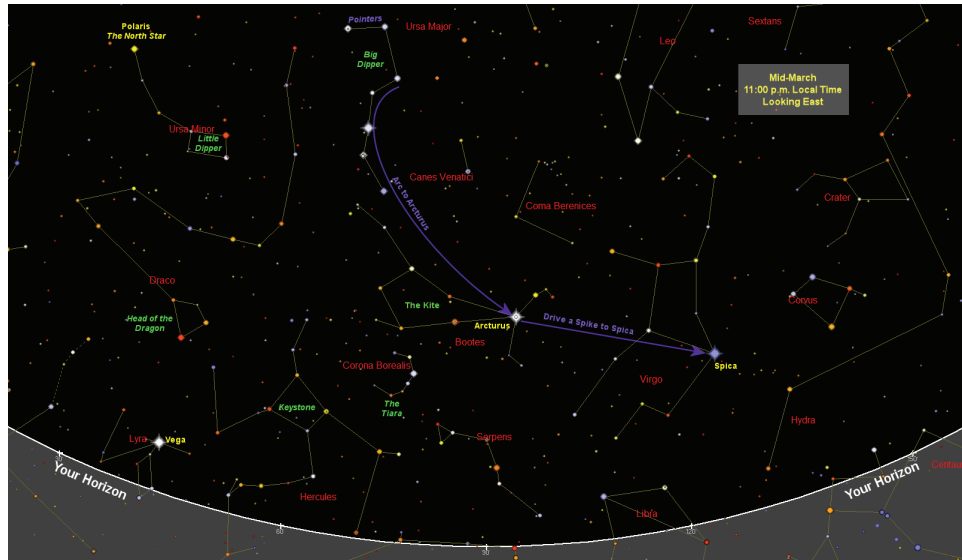
Mercury's retrograde periods can cause our plans to go awry. However, this is an excellent time to reflect on the past. Intuition is high during these periods, and coincidences can be extraordinary.

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 remaining 2023 retrograde periods: **April 21–May 14, August 23–September 14, and December 13–(January 1, 2024).**

–*Celeste Longacre*

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).



POINTERS IN THE SKY

Getting your bearings under the night sky can be a challenge, even if you have a sky map or star chart to help you. Star gazers of every experience level—from newcomer to expert—typically begin an evening of observing by finding a single familiar star pattern (asterism) and using it to point the way. On March evenings, there is no better place to start than with the Big Dipper.

The Big Dipper asterism is composed of the seven brightest stars in the constellation Ursa Major, the Greater Bear. The shape of the Big Dipper never varies, but its orientation changes constantly. This month's Sky Map shows the Dipper as it appears during March in the late evening, when it seems to be standing upright, precariously balanced on its handle. Come back just a few hours later, and the Dipper will have moved so that it is upside-down as if pouring out its contents. Return at a different time of year, and the Big



TAP TO GET
A PRINTABLE
MARCH
SKY MAP



TAP TO
FOLLOW
OHIOAN JEFF
DETRAY'S SKY
ADVENTURES



Dipper might be to the left of Polaris instead of on the right as it is in March. Learn to recognize the Big Dipper no matter what its orientation is.

The Dipper's stars always point the way to other celestial sights. The two stars that form the front end of the Dipper's bowl are known as the Pointers. They point directly toward Polaris, the North Star, in Ursa Minor, the Lesser Bear. Because Polaris points the way to true north, it has long been a vital guidepost for navigation on both land and sea. When you use the Pointers to find Polaris, you'll be doing the same thing as countless explorers and sailors have done in the past.

The stars of the Big Dipper's handle form a graceful curve or arc. If you extend this curve past the end of the handle and follow it two more "handle lengths," you'll end up at the bright star Arcturus in Boötes, the Herdsman. The main stars of Boötes form a somewhat lopsided kite shape.

Once you've reached Arcturus, straighten out the curve and make a beeline for Spica, the brightest star in Virgo, the Virgin. The journey from the Big Dipper to Spica has given rise to a popular astronomer's refrain: "Arc to Arcturus, then drive a spike to Spica." Once your gaze has wandered from the Big Dipper to Arcturus to Spica, perhaps you'll remember the refrain the next time you spot the Dipper.

Using the Big Dipper to orient yourself helps to overcome a problem that's common to all star gazers: grasping the scale of the sky. Translating what's shown on a sky map to what you see in the sky can be difficult. Distances in the sky seem greater than what they appear to be on a map. Starting with a bright asterism such as the Big Dipper and then extending your view to encompass Arcturus and Spica can help you to relate your map to the sky that it represents.

Once you understand the scale of the sky, it becomes much easier to find other stars and constellations. On our March map, look for points of interest such as the sinuous body and distinctive head of Draco, the Dragon; the beautiful Tiara shape of Corona Borealis, the Northern Crown; and the Keystone asterism at the heart of Hercules, the Roman Hero.

-Jeff DeTray

The 2023 Garden Guide is here!



THE OLD FARMER'S ALMANAC

Garden Guide

2023



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AMUSEMENT



A Man and His Camera

*No one paid much attention to this eccentric, small-town photographer—
until collectors started paying millions for his images.*

PHOTO: MIKE DISFARMER

Between the late 1920s and 1959, any resident of Heber Springs, Arkansas, who wanted to have his or her picture made had only one place to go: a damp, sparsely furnished studio on Main Street that was operated by a sullen man named Mike Disfarmer. Over the years, Disfarmer photographed hundreds of the town's residents: mothers proudly holding their babies, farm families on their Saturday visits to town, newly engaged couples, hunters alongside their prized hounds, children in their Sunday best, and men in uniform about to be shipped off to war.

For 50 cents, the subjects received three prints and the unsettling experience of posing for Disfarmer, who didn't even so much as greet his customers before disappearing under the black drape behind the camera for minutes at a time, emerging only to bark orders about where

to stand.

Disfarmer's sometimes grumpy personality was only one reason that he was an outsider in the tight-knit community of just over 2,000. He was a reclusive bachelor who lived in a spare room at his studio and an agnostic among churchgoing Baptists and Methodists. Born in Indiana, he also was possibly this Confederate town's only son of a Union soldier. The closest he had to a friend was a man with whom he played country music, but even this acquaintance reported that Disfarmer "didn't say much that was personal."

What little Disfarmer did reveal about himself sounded like an Ozarks tall tale. Although he had a large family nearby, Disfarmer insisted that he wasn't related to them; instead, he claimed, as a baby he'd been picked up by a tornado from his real family's residence and deposited at the home

of the Meyer family, who had raised him. In 1939, he made the break official, legally changing his surname of Meyer to Disfarmer, with the explanation that *meier* meant "farmer" in German and *dis* meant "not"—and that he was neither a Meyer nor a farmer.

By the 1950s, Disfarmer's health and productivity had declined; he reportedly drank heavily and subsisted almost entirely on chocolate ice cream. After he died in 1959, it was several days before anyone thought to wonder where he was.

Disfarmer might have faded from memory—and his photographs might have remained mounted in family albums—if not for a fortuitous discovery.

Upon Disfarmer's death, a local man bought the contents of the studio from a bank for \$5. Amidst the old furniture and camera equipment, he found



approximately 4,000 glass-plate negatives. He wasn't sure what to do with them, so they sat in his garage until 1973, when the publisher of the local newspaper announced that he was interested in seeing old pictures from the town's past. The publisher, a photographer himself, recognized that Disfarmer's portraits were of more than local importance and sent a sampling to the editor of *Modern Photography* magazine. The woman was so impressed that she arranged for the publication of a book featuring 180 of the images in 1976 and a concurrent showing

at New York City's prestigious International Center of Photography.

Raves from the art world came immediately. Part of the appeal was due to Disfarmer's apparently innate technical skill: His studio had featured a skylight to make use of natural light; he had printed on high-quality paper; he had used sensitive glass-plate negatives decades after other photographers had switched to film; and he had been talented in arranging groups of people.

Interest in Disfarmer's work remained steady in the ensuing years, but a significant resurgence came in 2004, when a

collector came across 50 previously unseen prints (originals, developed by Disfarmer). He bought them all and eventually scouted out and acquired more than 3,000 others, at a reported cost of \$2 million.

Coincidentally, an art gallery owner was also buying Disfarmer prints, and the two quests culminated in separate exhibitions that opened at the same time in New York City.

Disfarmer's greatest contribution, however, perhaps lies in what his photographs captured: unassuming people from a simpler time that was fast disappearing.

—Jeff Baker

FOOD



Recipes to Welcome Spring!

*The first day of spring arrives on Monday, the 20th of March!
Celebrate with seasonal ingredients showing up in your local market or garden—
such as peas, asparagus, and rhubarb. Make these recipes to greet spring
in a delightful and delicious way.*

PHOTO: LORI PEDRICK

FOOD

Pesto Ricotta With Asparagus on Toast

PHOTO: SAMANTHA JONES/QUINN BREIN COMMUNICATIONS

PESTO RICOTTA WITH ASPARAGUS ON TOAST

1 cup ricotta cheese

1/4 cup plus 2 teaspoons basil pesto

salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

16 asparagus spears

4 slices hearty white, whole wheat, or Panella bread

4 large eggs

In a bowl, combine ricotta, 1/4 cup of pesto, and salt and pepper.

Break ends off asparagus. Place spears in a shallow, nonstick pan with a lid. Add enough water to just cover asparagus. Cover and cook over medium-high heat for 6 to 8 minutes, or until crisp-tender. Remove asparagus from water and blot with paper towels to dry. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Drain water from pan and set aside for cooking the eggs.

While asparagus is cooking, toast bread slices in a toaster or under the broiler until golden brown.

Put remaining 2 teaspoons of pesto into the pan and spread out evenly. Over medium-high heat, cook eggs for about 1 to 2 minutes on one side and 30 seconds to 1 minute on the other. (You want the yolk to be runny.) Spread one-quarter of the ricotta mixture on top of a piece of toast, then add four asparagus spears and top with an egg. Repeat for the rest of the pieces of toast.

Makes 4 servings.

FOOD

Peas and Egg Fried Rice



PHOTO: LORI PEDRICK

PEAS AND EGG FRIED RICE

- 1-1/2 cups basmati rice, rinsed
- 7 tablespoons canola oil, divided
- 16 shrimp, peeled and deveined, whole or chopped
- 4 extra-large eggs, beaten
- 3 scallions, chopped
- 1 cup fresh peas
- 4 tablespoons reduced sodium soy sauce
- 1 teaspoon brown sugar
- 1/8 teaspoon kosher salt

Bring 3 cups of water to a boil. Add rice and a pinch of salt. Return to a boil and simmer, covered, on low for about 25 minutes. Set aside.

In a large skillet, heat 2 tablespoons of oil until hot and add shrimp. Cook for 3 minutes, then transfer to a plate.

In the same skillet, heat remaining 5 tablespoons of oil until hot. Add eggs and cook until lightly scrambled. Add rice, shrimp, scallions, peas, soy sauce, brown sugar, and kosher salt. Cook for about 3 minutes.

Makes 4 servings.

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Rhubarb Chutney



RHUBARB CHUTNEY

2 cups diced rhubarb

1 tart apple, peeled, seeded, and chopped

1/2 cup brown sugar

1/2 cup raisins

1/4 cup apple cider vinegar

1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice

1 teaspoon ground ginger

1/2 teaspoon ground cumin

In a heavy, non-aluminum, sauce pan, combine all ingredients. Bring slowly to a boil, then reduce heat and simmer for 10 minutes, or until rhubarb and apple are very soft but still hold their shape. Do not allow them to turn into mush. Taste and adjust seasonings.

Cool and chill before serving.

Makes 2-1/2 cups.

DID YOU KNOW?
One inch of rain on
a 100-square-foot
surface results in 60
gallons of water.

Catching Rain the Smart Way

With drought incidence increasing and the cost of municipal water rising, why not make the best use of the precipitation that Mother Nature provides for free? A rain garden is a shallow, bowl-shape area that captures runoff water from impermeable surfaces—paved areas or the roof—during a heavy rain and allows it to soak into the ground gradually. Its benefits include reduction of the risk of water in the basement; a recharging of groundwater supplies; and the creation of a wildlife habitat for birds, butterflies, and beneficial insects.

Creating a rain garden can be as simple as directing the flow of water from your roof to a spot that you've already planted with water-loving plants—or, you can start from scratch. The size of the garden depends on the size of the impermeable area draining into it. Aim to make the bed about 20 percent of the size of the roof or driveway from

which the water is being funneled.

- **Make a basin:** Dig out dirt from a dry area at least 10 feet downhill from the water source.

(Avoid directing runoff to a naturally low spot that is already saturated or to your septic system.)

- **Replace heavy soil** with a fast-draining mixture of 50 percent sand, 25 percent compost, and 25 percent topsoil.

- **Pile stones and extra soil on the downhill side** of the garden to act as a berm and create a bowl where water can pool to a depth of about 6 inches.

- If water doesn't naturally flow to your rain garden, **dig a shallow (3- to 4-inch-deep) trench** from your downspout to the garden, line it with landscape fabric, and cover it with stones to create a stream bed effect.

- **Install plants:** In the center of the garden, set perennials and native plants that tolerate wet feet. Around these, place plants that tolerate occasional standing water. At the outer edges, set

plants that prefer drier soil.

- **Mulch with compost or shredded hardwood** (bark chips may float away in a heavy rain). If the water that flows into the garden washes out the mulch, break up the flow with a well-placed rock or two at the entrance to the basin.

A rain garden functions like a living sponge made of soil, plants, roots, and mulch. It should not become a breeding ground for mosquitoes; the water does not stand.

ALTERNATIVES

If your property is not suitable for a rain garden, these plants can help to manage storm water:

- **Trees and large shrubs** deflect rainfall, slowing it down before it reaches the ground and allowing it to soak into the ground and not run off immediately.

- **Tall grasses and other perennials** act as filters, sucking up water, trapping pollutants, and preventing silt from being carried off.

- **Well-established, deeply rooted plants** hold soil and direct water into the subsoil.

—Robin Sweetser

Garden Planning Season Has Begun!



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LIVING NATURALLY



Hot Flashes: Symptom or Power Surge?

PHOTO: HUMONIA/GETTY IMAGES

LIVING NATURALLY

Hot flash! It comes on suddenly—a sensation of heat rising up through the chest, neck, and face, sometimes accompanied by profuse sweating, lasting from a few seconds to a few minutes.

Women all over the world experience hot flashes before, during, and sometimes long after menopause. Whether you call them *bouffées de chaleur*, *vampate di calore*, or *hitzewallung*, hot flashes and the drenching night sweats that may accompany them are among the primary signs of menopause, the natural end of a woman's menstrual cycles. Yes, menopausal hot flashes are a normal life event, although they're often characterized as a hormonal deficiency requiring medical treatment.

Depending on their severity, frequency, and timing and the

social environment in which they occur, hot flashes can be annoying, embarrassing, disruptive, or even debilitating.

Some women experience them rarely; others feel the burn several times each day for years.

CAUSES

Medical researchers don't know for sure, but they hypothesize that the gradual decrease in production of reproductive hormones affects the temperature-regulating function of the brain's hypothalamus, causing it to detect a rise in the body's core temperature. This, in turn, increases the heart rate and dilates the blood vessels, allowing heat to escape through the skin.

Certain drugs, surgeries, endocrine disorders, stress, and even allergies can also bring on hot flashes.

The usual suspects for many health problems—caffeine, alcohol, cigarette smoke, spicy

food, stress, poor diet, and inactivity—also may trigger or worsen hot flashes for some women.

HOT FLASHES IN MEN

Because male hormones decline far more slowly than women's and most men retain adequate amounts of testosterone to prevent hot flashes, many men don't experience them (except vicariously and, we hope, sympathetically, if they have female partners).

But there are exceptions, especially for men receiving androgen deprivation therapy for prostate cancer. Because these men will be under the care of a physician, they should ask their doctors about ways to help to relieve especially debilitating hot flashes.

TREATMENTS

Pharmaceutical Approach
Research has confirmed hormone replacement therapy (HRT) as the gold standard for relieving severe or

LIVING NATURALLY

debilitating hot flashes, varying with a person's age, health, choice of hormone(s), dose, and "delivery method" (oral, skin patch, topical preparation, implant, etc.) tailored to the individual.

Other prescription pharmaceuticals offered for debilitating hot flashes include antidepressants, anti-seizure medications, high blood pressure medications, and nitroglycerin.

Herbal and Botanical Approach

Many women, wary of the potential side effects of hormone treatments and other pharmaceutical approaches, have turned to a wide variety of botanical preparations (especially phytoestrogens) to cool hot flashes, diminish night sweats, and smooth the mood swings that may also accompany menopause. Many report

that they've gotten relief from herbs and plant foods.

Yet what little rigorous medical research is available on the safety and effectiveness of botanical approaches has yielded contradictory results. Because herbal supplements aren't regulated in the same way as foods and prescription drugs, you may not know just what and how much of what your supplement contains.

If you're using herbs or soy foods (or other phytoestrogenic products) to ease menopausal symptoms, make sure to inform your medical professional so that she can make note of them in your medical record. I'd suggest printing copies of the labels or bringing the actual containers to your appointments so that your clinician can be sure of exactly what the substances are. Some commercial products

may cause allergies, have other side effects, or interact with prescription drugs.

BEYOND DISEASE-MONGERING

Magazine and newspaper articles, medical literature, and patient handouts often refer to symptoms, diagnoses, and treatments of menopause with terms like "failing ovaries" and "hormone deficiencies," as if this natural process demands medical intervention.

There's a long history of medicalizing the various stages of normal female sexual development. As for the medicalization of menopause, one writer calls it the "menopause industrial complex."

Although hormone replacement therapy is still prescribed as the most effective means of providing relief from severe and disabling hot flashes, experts now suggest



starting the therapy early in menopause and administering the lowest dose for the shortest period.

SURGE AHEAD!

Most women pass through this natural transition without medical help. Here are some tips to consciously weave into your everyday schedule:

- Seek support from peers and other supportive groups.
- Develop a mindfulness practice, such as yoga or

meditation, breathing exercises, and/or visualization (imagining yourself cool).

- Consider massage, accupressure, and other relaxation techniques.
- Pay attention to eating well, avoiding alcohol, caffeine, and spicy foods.
- Exercise daily, as activity has been proven to help. Stay hydrated.
- Get adequate sleep.

Even if they may not reduce the frequency or severity of hot flashes, any or all of these steps can increase your health

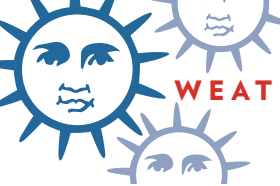
and vitality and provide you with a sense of new possibilities.

So, instead of symptom-seeking treatments, why not think of those hot flashes as power surges and explore ways to use this power for what lies ahead?

—Margaret Boyles



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



AS IT RAINS IN MARCH, SO IT RAINS IN JUNE.

HOW WE MAKE OUR PREDICTIONS

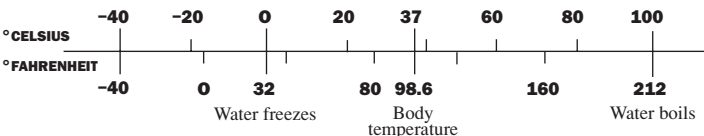
We derive our weather forecasts from a secret formula that was devised by the founder of this Almanac, Robert B. Thomas, in 1792. Thomas believed that weather on Earth was influenced by sunspots, which are magnetic storms on the surface of the Sun.

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.

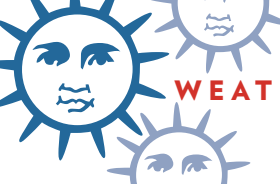
CELSIUS-FAHRENHEIT TABLE



TAP TO FIND OUT THE WEATHER HISTORY OF THE DAY

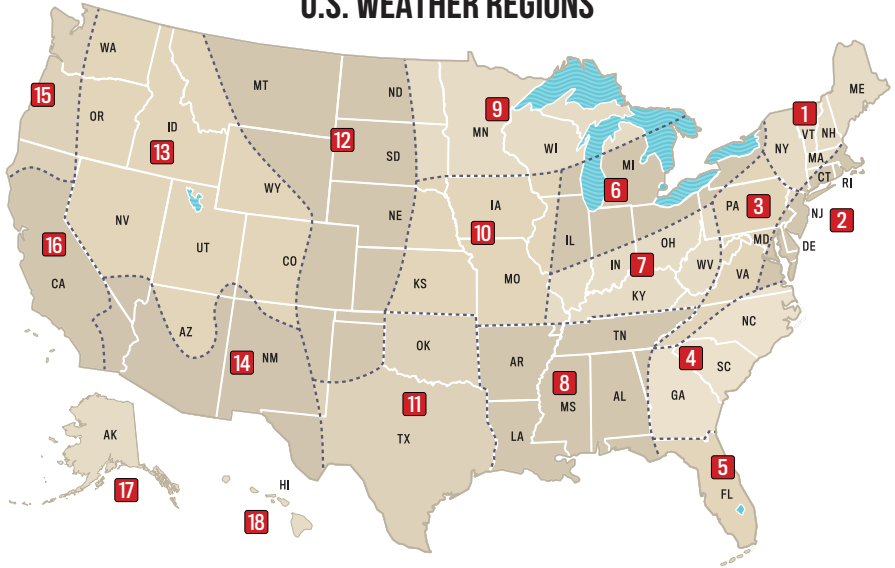


LOVE ALL THINGS WEATHER? TAP FOR THE WEATHER FOLKLORE OF THE DAY



WEATHER FORECASTS

U.S. WEATHER REGIONS



CANADIAN WEATHER REGIONS



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





A SPRING YOU CAN WARM UP TO

Texas Independence Day—March 2—looks to be a sunny, chilly one across the Lone Star State. The 2nd is also Read Across America Day, when in the Southeast it will be an especially good day to curl up inside with a book because there will be the potential for some rain. Although temperatures are going to be on the chilly side across much of the East, they will be a bit milder toward the Upper Midwest—albeit probably still a little too cool for doing any outdoor reading. Much of the West will be on the cooler side of average, with some rain and mountain snow showers extending from the Rockies into the Southwest.

Looking ahead to St. Patrick's Day on the 17th, there could be some late-season snow on the shamrocks across New England, keeping the skiers happy deep into March. Farther south, there will be the potential for some rain and even some downpours from the mid-Atlantic into the Appalachians.



Meanwhile, warm sunshine is expected across the Southeast, in contrast to unsettled skies in the Plains and West, where there will be some showers lurking. In Canada, there will be pockets of rain and snow showers in both western and eastern areas, but the Prairies and much of the middle part of the country will be dry.

For Seward's Day in Alaska on the 27th, there will be some spotty snow showers across northern parts of the state, but most areas will be dry and on the mild side.

While there will be some pockets of chill across New England, Florida, and parts of the Great Lakes, the vast majority of the U.S. (including Alaska and Hawaii) is looking at a pretty mild March. For many areas, there will be some early tastes of spring. Across Canada, near- to below-normal temperatures are expected from Atlantic Canada back through Quebec, Ontario, and the Northwest Territories. Above-normal temperatures are forecast elsewhere.

Looking at precipitation, near- to above-normal precipitation is expected in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic, perhaps a sign of a late-season coastal storm or two. On the flip side, much of the Southeast, Great Lakes, and Plains will be on the drier side. Near- or above-normal precipitation is forecast from the Rockies back through the Southwest, while the Pacific Northwest will likely end up a little drier. Alaska and Hawaii will see near- or below-normal precipitation. In Canada, most areas will see above-normal precipitation in March, although we could see some drier pockets across Quebec and the Northwest Territories.

Spring as a whole has the potential to be a warmer-than-normal period across much of the U.S. While there may be some pockets of chillier air across the mid-Atlantic, Appalachians, and parts of the Rockies, most areas will tend to lean toward the milder side. Precipitation looks to be on the wet side from the West through the Plains and into the Mid-Atlantic and Southeast. Elsewhere, the April flowers may need a little manual watering to get going in a drier weather pattern. Canada will tend to be drier in eastern areas and wetter in central and western parts of the country. Temperatures will largely be near or above normal, but the chill may hold on longer across the Northwest Territories.

—Bob Smerbeck and Brian Thompson, Old Farmer's Almanac meteorologists



HUMOR ME

GRINS AND GROANS FROM THE ALMANAC



CERTIFIABLY INACTIVE

Overrated actress: “I have a certificate from my doctor saying that I can’t act today.”

Stage manager: “Thank you, but that is never necessary.”

BODY LANGUAGE

An elderly lady of very prim and severe aspect was seated next to a young couple who were

discussing the merits of their motorcars.

“What color is your body?” asked the young man of the girl at his side, meaning, of course, the body of her car.

“Oh, mine is pink. What is yours?”

“Mine,” replied the man, “is brown with wide yellow stripes.”

This was too much

for the old lady. Rising from the table, she exclaimed:

“When young people come to asking each other the color of their bodies at a dinner party, it is time I left the room!”

FLAT OUT WRONG

Irate motorist: “This darned car won’t even climb a hill. You



said that it was a fine machine!”

Car dealer: “What I said was, ‘On the level, it’s a good car.’”

CONFIDENCE MAN

It used to be that starting a bank in Wisconsin was a comparatively simple proposition. The surprisingly small amount of capital then needed is well illustrated by the story that a prosperous country-town banker told on himself, when asked how he happened to enter the banking business:

“Well,” he said, “I didn’t have much else to do, so I rented an empty store building and painted Bank on the window. The first day I was open for business, a man came in and deposited \$100 with me; the

second day, another man dropped in and deposited \$150; and so, by George, along about the third day, I got up enough confidence in the bank to put in \$100 myself!”

BUGGED

It was in the evening. Several callers were chatting in the parlor when a patter of little feet was heard at the head of the stairs. The mother raised her hand for silence.

“Hush,” she said softly. “The children are going to deliver their goodnight message. It always gives me a feeling of reverence to hear them. They are so much nearer the Creator than we are, and they speak the love that is in their little hearts never so fully as when the dark has come. Listen!”

There was a moment of tense silence. Then—“Mama,” came the message in a shrill whisper, “Willie found a bedbug.”

NO REDRESS

The woman lecturing on dress reform was greatly shocked when she read the report of her event as published in the local newspaper. The writer had been innocent enough, concluding with:

“The lady lecturer on dress wore nothing that was remarkable.”

However, the mischievous (and soon unemployed) typesetter had inserted a period and capital that had gone unnoticed by the proofreader, causing the final notice to read:

“The lady lecturer on dress wore nothing. That was remarkable.”