

FROM THE OLD FARMER'S ALMANAC

### THE FROTH OF OUR FATHERS

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





# **NOVEMBER**

Holidays, Full Moon Names, and More

### **HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS**

Nov. 3: Daylight Saving Time

ends at 2:00 A.M.

Nov. 5: Election Day

Nov. 10: U.S. Marine Corps

Birthday

Nov. 11: Veterans Day

Nov. 11: Remembrance Day

(Canada)

Nov. 19: Discovery of Puerto

Rico Day

Nov. 28: Thanksgiving Day

### **BIRTH FLOWERS: NOVEMBER**

### **CHRYSANTHEMUM**

- In general, chrysanthemums may symbolize loyalty, friendship, and joy. Red ones may represent true love; white, innocence and honesty; yellow, a wounded heart or neglected love.
- According to Chinese and Japanese traditions, the flower can be a sign of youth or longevity.





### EYE ON THE SKY

### **NOVEMBER'S FULL MOON NAMES**

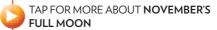
Beaver Moon, Frost Moon, Digging/Scratching Moon

#### **MOON PHASES**

New Moon: Nov. 1, 8:47 A.M. EDT First Quarter: Nov. 9, 12:55 A.M. EST Full Moon: Nov. 15, 4:29 P.M. EST Last Quarter: Nov. 22, 8:28 P.M. EST

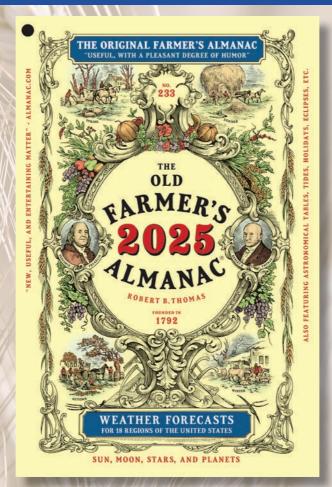


TAP FOR MORE ABOUT MOON PHASES



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## **BEST DAYS TO DO THINGS**

These November 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: 1, 2

Ask for a loan: 28, 29

Begin diet to gain weight: 3, 12

Begin diet to lose weight: 16, 25

Buy a home: 1, 2

Color hair: 14, 15

Cut hair to discourage growth:

25 - 27

Cut hair to encourage growth: 10,

11, 14

Entertain: 20-22

Get married: 25-27

Have dental care: 23, 24



Move (house/household): 16, 17

Perm hair: 8, 9

Quit smoking: 16, 25

Straighten hair: 3, 4, 30

Travel for pleasure: 20–22

Wean children: 16, 25

### **AROUND THE HOUSE**

Bake: 18, 19

Brew: 1, 2, 28, 29

Can, pickle, or make sauerkraut: 28,

29

Demolish: 1, 2, 28, 29

Dry fruit, vegetables, or meat: 20–22

End projects: 14

Lay shingles: 20-22

Make jams or jellies: 10, 11

Paint: 25-27

Start projects: 2

Wash floors: 10, 11

Wash windows: 12, 13

### **OUTDOORS**

Begin logging: 5–7

Go camping: 3, 4, 30

Go fishing: 1–15

Set posts or pour concrete: 5–7

#### IN THE GARDEN

Destroy pests and weeds: 12, 13

Graft or pollinate: 18, 19

Harvest aboveground crops: 5–7

Harvest belowground crops: 23, 24

Mow to promote growth: 1, 2

Mow to slow growth: 28, 29

Pick fruit: 23, 24

Plant aboveground crops: 1, 2, 10, 11

Plant belowground crops: 18, 19,

28, 29

Prune to discourage growth: 20-22

Prune to encourage growth: 3, 4

### **ON THE FARM**

Breed animals: 1, 2, 28, 29

Castrate animals: 8, 9

Cut hay: 12, 13

Purchase animals: 18, 19

Set eggs: 16, 17

Slaughter livestock: 1, 2, 28, 29

Wean animals: 16, 25





# GARDENING BY THE MOON'S SIGN Use the November dates shown in the Moon's Astrologic

Use the November 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.

# TAP FOR MERCURY IN RETROGRADE DATES

TAP FOR NOVEMBER MOON PHASES

#### THE MOON'S ASTROLOGICAL PLACE IN NOVEMBER

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

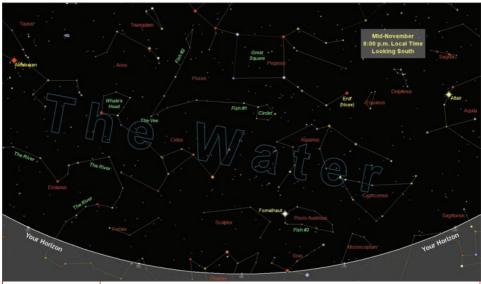
When Mercury is retrograde, remain flexible, allow extra time for travel, and avoid signing contracts. Review projects and plans at these times, but wait until Mercury is direct again to make any final decisions.

Mercury's remaining 2024 retrograde period is **November 25**–**December 15.** 

-Celeste Longacre

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.





# TWO HORSES, THREE FISH, AND ONE HAPPY DOLPHIN

hen you look to the south on November evenings, your view of the sky is dominated by The Water. This region of the night sky is full of constellations both wet and wild. Our tour of The Water begins with an airborne equine.

Note: You'll need to do your star gazing from a very dark location to see many of the sights described here.

High in the south lies Pegasus, the Winged Horse. He's flying upside down from our point of view, but the distinctive Great Square that comprises his body is easy to find. Pegasus's neck and head arc from the lower right corner of the Great Square, ending in the star Enif (Nose). How can a horse, flying or not, be a part of the sky's water world? In Greek mythology, Pegasus is the son of Poseidon, the god of the sea, who just happens to be the horse god as



TAP TO FOLLOW OHIOAN JEFF DETRAY'S SKY ADVENTURES



well. Due to his unusual father, Pegasus can be considered a seahorse as well as a flying horse!

Just off the nose of Pegasus is his offspring, Equuleus, the Foal. There's never been any word on whether Equuleus inherited his father's ability to fly!

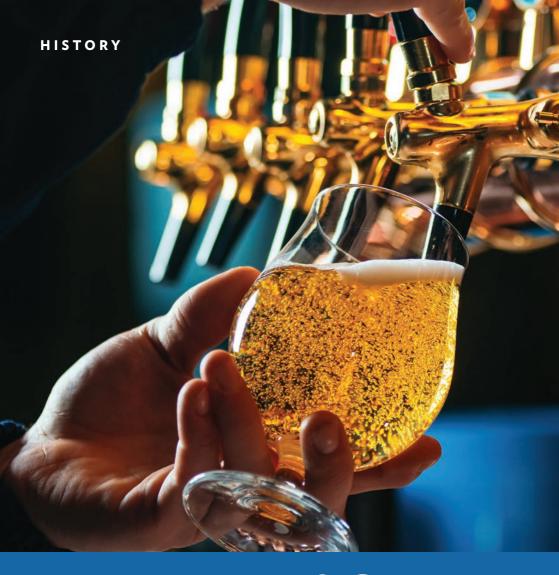
Now we can dive more deeply into The Water. Look immediately below the Great Square for a small pentagon of dim stars called the Circlet. It's the head of the first fish (Fish #1) on our tour, one of two scaly swimmers that make up the constellation Pisces, the Fishes. From the Circlet, follow a long, dim arc of stars to the left until it meets a sparse line of stars coming down from above at The Vee. This line leads upward to the second fish (Fish #2) of the Pisces twosome. In Greek mythology, the fish represent Aphrodite and her son Eros, joined together with ropes at The Vee. In this way, mother and son will never be parted.

tarting again at the Great Square, gaze down past the Circlet to the bright star Fomalhaut. It's by far the brightest star in the otherwise dim constellation Piscis Austrinus, the Southern Fish, and the third member of our Sky Map's fishy trio (Fish #3). One translation of Fomalhaut is "the mouth of the southern fish."

Above Fomalhaut are the stars of Aquarius, the Water Bearer. Aquarius is often depicted as pouring water from an urn down into the fish's "mouth" (Fomalhaut). Below and to the right of Aquarius is another denizen of The Water: Capricornus, the Sea Goat. This unusual creature with the head of a goat and tail of a fish has mythological origins dating back more than 4,000 years.

At lower left flows a large bend of the River Eridanus. Much of this ancient river lies out of sight below the horizon at this time of year. Above Eridanus swims sprawling Cetus, the Sea Monster (or Whale).

The final creature of the celestial sea is not found in The Water itself. Return your attention to Enif, the Nose of Pegasus; look past Equuleus, the Foal; and find the little constellation Delphinus, the Dolphin. Despite ranking as one of the smallest constellations, Delphinus is one that truly resembles its name. But what's a dolphin doing up there where the horses frolic? Why, it's doing what dolphins do: leaping out of The Water for the sheer joy of it!



# Froth of Our Fathers

From the earliest days, Americans (and their presidents) have been brewing and drinking beer.

he Pilgrims may have come to the New World from England in search of religious freedom, but it was beer, or a lack of it, that landed them at Plymouth Rock. According to Mourt's Relation, a journal kept by the Pilgrims of their voyage to America, they decided to settle in Massachusetts because they had run out of beer. It was written on board the Mayflower, December 19, 1620 (Old Style): "So in the morning, after we had called on God for direction, we came to this resolution: to go presently ashore again. . . . We could not now take time for further search or consideration. our victuals being much spent, especially our beer."

The first native to speak to them, Samoset, greeted them by asking for beer. He had learned the language, and about beer, over years of dealing with earlier English visitors, who had come to fish the teeming waters.

Beer drinking was not limited to New England. The earlier English colony at Jamestown, in Virginia, finding no one in its midst who knew anything about making beer, placed ads in London newspapers for brewers to join their company. The first brewery in America was actually in New Amsterdam (eventually New York). The Dutch colonists there were producing beer by 1612.

Beer, which has been brewed for thousands of years, was an essential beverage. Colonists, adults and children alike, drank "small beer," usually made at home, which contained far less alcohol than the "strong ale" produced by brewers. Small beer provided hydration and calories, and because it was boiled in the

brewing process, it was free from dangerous bacteria found in water and milk.

One of the most famous early American beer recipes is George Washington's:

Take a large sifter full of bran hops to *your taste—boil these* 3 hours. Then strain out 30 gallons into a cooler, put in 3 gallons molasses while the beer is scalding hot, or rather draw the molasses into the cooler and strain the beer on it while boiling hot. Let this stand till it is little more than blood warm. Then put in a quart of yeast *if the weather is very* cold, cover it over with a blanket, and let it work in the cooler 24 hours. Then put it into the cask. Leave the bung open till it is almost done working bottle it that day, week it was brewed.

Usually it was the woman of the house who did the brewing. It's not clear whether John

### AFTER MARTHA'S DEATH IN 1782, BEER WAS NOT MADE AT MONTICELLO FOR THREE DECADES.

Adams's wife, Abigail, concocted the occasional beer that he had for breakfast, but in the early years of their marriage, Thomas Jefferson's wife, Martha, brewed 15 gallons of small beer about every 2 weeks.

After Martha's death in 1782, beer was not made at Monticello for three decades. But in 1813, the former president befriended Captain Joseph Miller, a British brewmaster stranded in the United States by the War of 1812, and persuaded him to teach the art to the enslaved Peter Hemings. In time, Hemings would make at least 100 gallons of ale every spring and fall.

"I have no doubt, either in moral or economical view, of the desirableness to introduce a taste for malt liquors instead of that for ardent spirits," Jefferson wrote to a friend in 1815. "The difficulty is in changing the public taste and habit. The business of brewing is now so much introduced in every state that it appears to me to need no other encouragement than to increase the number of consumers."

efferson was right. There were only 132 breweries in America in 1810, and the average annual per capita consumption was less than a gallon. (The chief American alcoholic beverage at that time was corn whiskey.) It wasn't until the mid-19th century that revolution in Europe brought many German brewers to the States. The oldest U.S. brewery still operating is Yuengling, of Pottsville,

Pennsylvania, which was started in 1829. It was followed by familiar names like Schaefer (1842), Pabst (1844), Anheuser-Busch (1852), Miller (1855), and Coors (1873). By 1914, annual per capita consumption had increased to 20 gallons, which falls well short of today's level of 28.2 gallons per person.

The presidents after Jefferson and before Prohibition preferred wine, hard cider, or distilled liquors such as whiskey, if they drank alcohol. Before taking office, Abraham Lincoln, when ill, occasionally drank lager on the orders of a physician. While in his 20s, Lincoln co-owned a tavern that served liquor, beer, and cider.

Two notable beer drinkers in the White House were James

### IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN TRYING A PRESIDENTIAL BREW, YOU DON'T HAVE TO MAKE IT YOURSELF.

Garfield and Grover Cleveland. The story goes that Cleveland and one of his friends vowed to limit their beer intake to four glasses per day, but when their thirst proved too great, they used bigger steins. Jimmy Carter abstained, but with Congress in 1979, he made home brewing legal again (it had been banned since Prohibition). Ronald Reagan drank beer in a pub on a visit to Ballyporeen, Ireland, in 1984. The interior of the pub was later wholly reconstructed in his presidential library.

n spite of its historic origins and popularity, beer was not brewed in the White House until the Obama Administration. (Washington and Jefferson took up beer brewing after leaving office.) Barack Obama bought a home-brewing kit in 2011, and White House chef Sam Kass created an exclusive recipe. Its secret ingredient? Honey from the White House beehive, another presidential first.

When word leaked of the presidential brew, the administration was

### **FACTS ON TAP**

The Moon has a crater named Beer. It was named for Wilhelm Wolff Beer (1797-1850), who produced the first exact map of the Moon in 1834-36.

The top five states in annual per capita beer consumption: North Dakota (45.8 gallons), New Hampshire (43.9), Montana (41.0), South Dakota (38.9), Wisconsin (36.2).

In Canada, Newfoundlanders rank first among the provinces' imbibers, at about 23.9 gallons per capita per year.

reluctant to share the recipe. But home brewers protested (some filed Freedom of Information Act requests), the president relented, and the recipe for White House Honey Brown Ale was released in 2012. Beer aficionados pronounced it good.

If you're interested in trying a presidential brew, you don't have to make it yourself. Yards, a Philadelphia brewer, offers beers based on recipes from Washington, Jefferson, and even nonpresident Benjamin Franklin, who was known to enjoy a refreshing quaff now and then. He never said. "God created beer to make men happy"; the actual quotation referred to wine. But he probably would have appreciated the sentiment.

-Tim Clark

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TAP TO FIND OUT THE WEATHER HISTORY OF THE DAY

LOVE ALL THINGS WEATHER? TAP FOR THE WEATHER FOLKLORE OF THE DAY WHEN IN NOVEMBER THE WATER RISES, IT WILL SHOW ITSELF THE WHOLE WINTER.

### **HOW WE MAKE OUR PREDICTIONS**

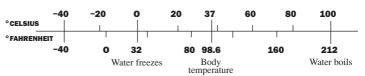
We derive our weather forecasts from a secret formula that was devised by the founder of this Almanac, Robert B. Thomas, in 1792. Thomas believed that weather on Earth was influenced by sunspots, which are magnetic storms on the surface of the Sun.

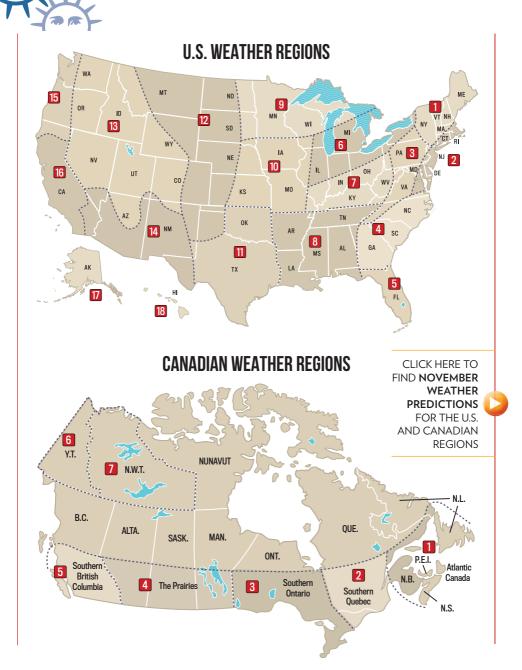
Over the years, we have refined and enhanced this formula with state-of-the-art technology and modern scientific calculations. We employ three scientific disciplines to make our long-range predictions: solar science, the study of sunspots and other solar activity; climatology, the study of prevailing 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 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**







## PIE AND (MOSTLY) DRY

n U.S. Election Day, November 5, there will be some pockets of rain along the East Coast. Much of the East will be on the warmer side, while it will be cold enough for snow showers in some areas of the Great Lakes and Upper Midwest, where those waiting in line to vote will want to bundle up. Sunshine is expected from parts of the Ohio Valley down through the Tennessee Valley and the central Gulf Coast. There will be a few areas of rain in the Plains, but most places will be dry. The West Coast looks mostly precipitation-free with some sunshine. It will be on the chilly side across Washington, but warmer for Oregon and California. A sunny day is expected across the Rockies, while there could be a shower or two in the Desert Southwest. Alaska will see periods of rain and snow, while heavy rain is in the forecast for eastern Hawaii, with showers in central and western areas.

For the 111th Grey Cup in Vancouver, British Columbia, on November 17,

we expect some clouds and a couple of showers.

Looking ahead to U.S. Thanksgiving on November 28, there will be a fair amount of sunshine from the Upper Midwest over to much of the East Coast, where travel weather should generally be pretty good in the days leading up to festivities outside of chilly conditions. That's certainly good news for airline hubs such as Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Detroit, and Charlotte. There will be some rain in parts of Florida. A couple of showers could slow travel a bit from the Ohio Valley to the Deep South. Much of the Plains will be dry with just a few showers around. Snow showers could cause some slick spots for the trek to Grandma's house in the Rockies. Dry weather and sunshine should help keep holiday travel moving in the Southwest, including hubs like Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Phoenix. At the same time, there could be some rain across the Pacific Northwest over Thanksgiving and into Black Friday.

We're expecting a warm November overall from the Great Lakes over to much of the East Coast. Temperatures will also be near to above normal from the Upper Midwest through much of the central and northern Plains. Along the Gulf Coast, though, it will likely turn out a little cooler than normal. It will be on the chilly side from the Rockies over toward Washington State, while it will likely be warmer than normal from Oregon down to California. We're expecting a warmer than normal November in Alaska, while Hawaii will be a little cooler. Across Canada, temperatures will mainly be near or above normal with the exception of southern British Columbia.

Precipitation will be near or below normal from the Great Lakes to the Northeast and the Mid-Atlantic. Much of the Deep South and Southeast will be wetter than normal. A drier than normal November is expected from the Plains all the way to the West Coast. Across Alaska, above-normal precipitation will be found across the south, while it will be drier in the north. The Big Island of Hawaii will likely have a wet November, while the rest of the islands will be on the drier side. Looking at Canada, we're expecting near-to below-normal precipitation across the Maritimes, southwestern Ontario, southern British Columbia, the Yukon, and the Northwest Territories. Abovenormal precipitation is likely for southern Quebec, southeastern Ontario, and the Prairies.

-Bob Smerbeck and Brian Thompson, The Old Farmer's Almanac