

EXTRA!

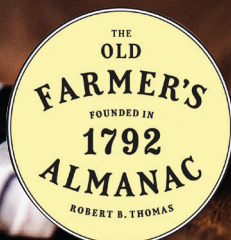
FROM THE OLD FARMER'S ALMANAC

10 NEW USES FOR COFFEE!

BUNDLE A BOUQUET FOR
BOTH YOU AND THE BIRDS

SENSATIONAL SWEET POTATO RECIPES

INTRODUCING *THE OLD
FARMER'S ALMANAC FOR KIDS*



OCTOBER 2021

PHOTO: PIXABAY

FEATURES

LIVING NATURALLY

10 New Uses for Coffee!

GARDENING

Bundle a Bouquet for You and the Birds

FOOD

Sensational Sweet Potato Recipes

ALMANAC FOR KIDS

Introducing *The Old Farmer's Almanac for Kids*



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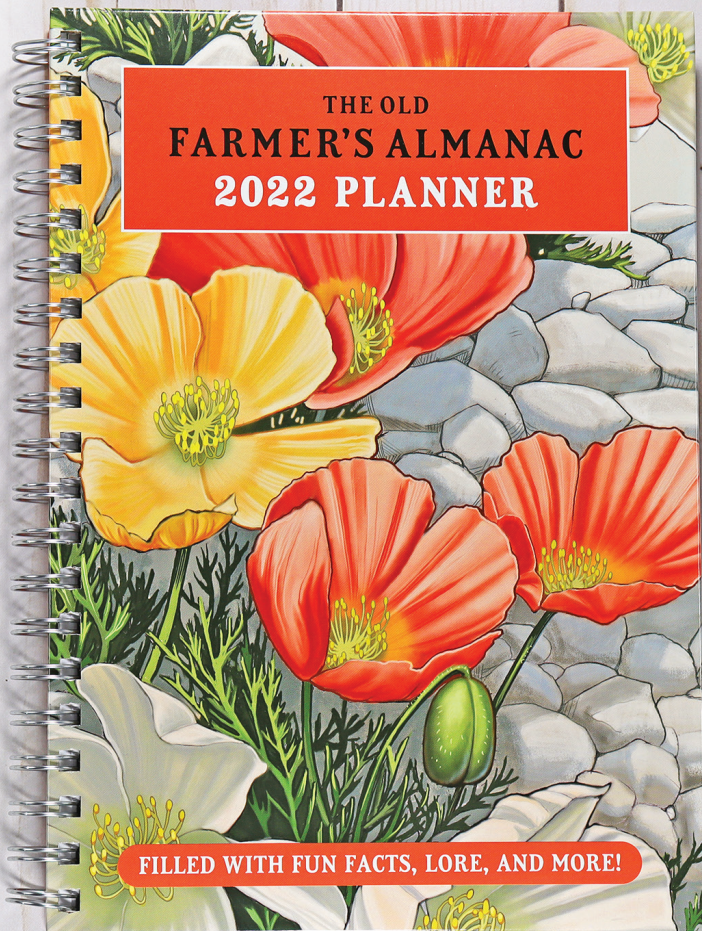
See what we have in store for our November issue!



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OCTOBER

Holidays, Full Moon Names, and More



EYE ON THE SKY

OCTOBER'S FULL MOON NAMES

Hunter's Moon, Drying Rice Moon,
Freezing Moon, Migrating Moon

MOON PHASES

New Moon: Oct. 6, 7:05 A.M. EDT

First Quarter: Oct. 12, 11:25 P.M. EDT

Full Moon: Oct. 20, 10:57 A.M. EDT

Last Quarter: Oct. 28, 4:05 P.M. EDT



TAP FOR MORE ABOUT MOON PHASES



TAP FOR MORE ABOUT OCTOBER'S FULL MOON

*Gorgeous are thy woods, October!
Clad in glowing mantles sear;
Brightest tints of beauty blending,
Like the west, when day's
descending,
Thou'rt the sunset of the year.*

—Hugh Macdonald, Scottish poet (1817–60)

A MONTH TO REMEMBER

“October” comes from the Latin *octo*, “eight,” because this was the eighth month of the early Roman calendar.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Oct. 4: Child Health Day

Oct. 9: Leif Eriksson Day

Oct. 11: Columbus Day, observed

Oct. 11: Indigenous Peoples' Day

Oct. 11: Thanksgiving Day
(Canada)

Oct. 24: United Nations Day

Oct. 31: Halloween

Order your 2022 Old Farmer's Almanac calendars at [Almanac.com/Shop](https://www.almanac.com/Shop).



BEST DAYS TO DO THINGS

These October 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: 7, 8

Ask for a loan: 21, 22

Begin diet to lose weight: 3, 22, 31

Begin diet to gain weight: 8, 17

Buy a home: 7, 8

Color hair: 21, 22

Cut hair to discourage growth: 5, 21, 22

Cut hair to encourage growth: 16, 17

Entertain: 1, 2, 28–30

Get married: 5, 6

Have dental care: 3, 4, 31

Move (house/household): 23–25

Perm hair: 14, 15

Quit smoking: 3, 22, 31

Straighten hair: 9–11

Travel for pleasure: 1, 2, 28–30

Wean children: 3, 22, 31



AROUND THE HOUSE

Bake: 26, 27

Brew: 7, 8

Can, pickle, or make sauerkraut: 26, 27

Demolish: 7, 8

Dry fruit, vegetables, or meat: 1, 2, 28–30

End projects: 5

Lay shingles: 1, 2, 28–30

Make jams or jellies: 16, 17

Paint: 5, 6

Start projects: 7

Wash floors: 16, 17

Wash windows: 18–20

IN THE GARDEN

Destroy pests and weeds: 18–20

Graft or pollinate: 26, 27

Harvest aboveground crops: 12, 13

Harvest belowground crops: 3, 4, 31

Mow to slow growth: 1, 2, 28–30

Mow to promote growth: 18, 19

Pick fruit: 3, 4, 31

Plant aboveground crops: 7, 8, 16

Plant belowground crops: 26, 27

Prune to discourage growth: 1, 2, 28–30

Prune to encourage growth: 18, 19

OUTDOORS

Begin logging: 12, 13

Go camping: 9–11

Go fishing: 6–20

Set posts or pour concrete: 12, 13

ON THE FARM

Breed animals: 7, 8

Castrate animals: 14, 15

Cut hay: 18–20

Purchase animals: 26, 27

Set eggs: 14, 15, 22, 23

Slaughter livestock: 7, 8

Wean animals: 3, 22, 31

Make every day a Best Day with the best-selling *Old Farmer's Almanac for Kids*, now just out with its brand-new Volume 9. Featuring everything from Astronomy, Gardening, and Nature to Pets, Sports, and Weather, the *OFAK* is packed with facts, activities, and just plain fun! Get yours today at [Almanac.com/Shop](https://www.almanac.com/shop).



GARDENING BY THE MOON'S SIGN

Use the October 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 OCTOBER

1 Leo	9 Sagittarius	17 Pisces	25 Gemini
2 Leo	10 Sagittarius	18 Aries	26 Cancer
3 Virgo	11 Sagittarius	19 Aries	27 Cancer
4 Virgo	12 Capricorn	20 Aries	28 Leo
5 Libra	13 Capricorn	21 Taurus	29 Leo
6 Libra	14 Aquarius	22 Taurus	30 Leo
7 Scorpio	15 Aquarius	23 Gemini	31 Virgo
8 Scorpio	16 Pisces	24 Gemini	



TAP FOR
MERCURY IN
RETROGRADE
DATES



TAP FOR
OCTOBER
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.

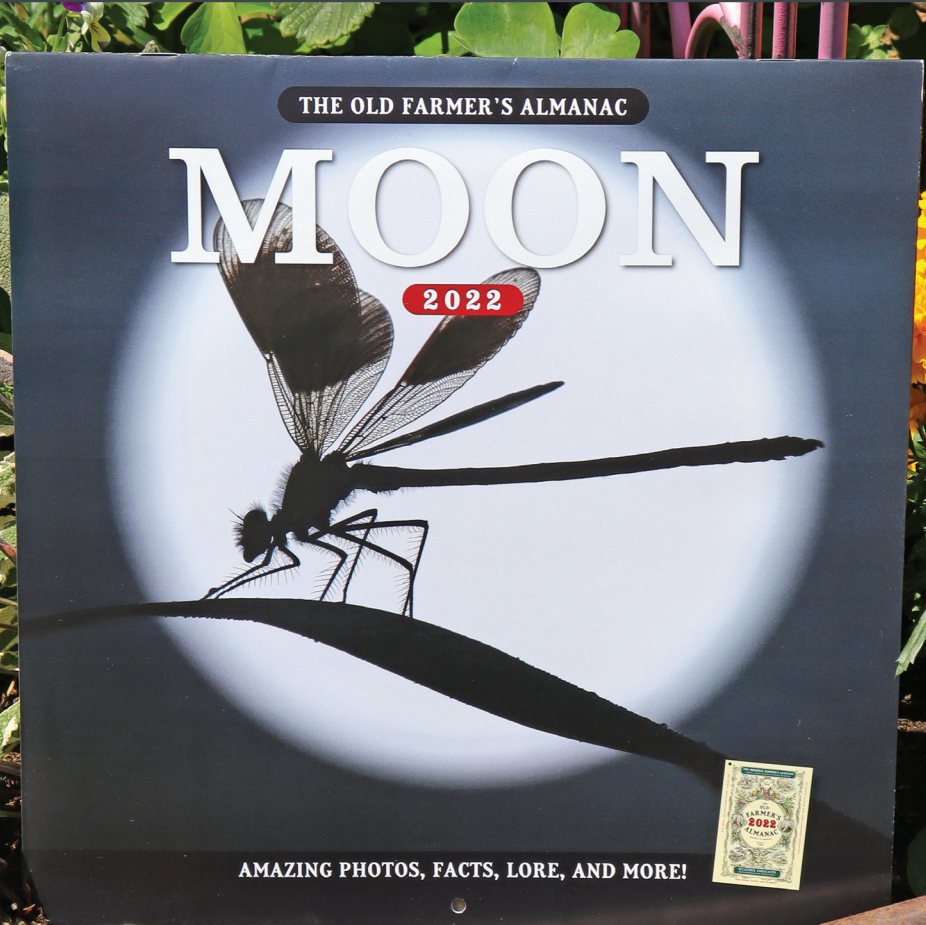
Mercury's remaining 2021 retrograde period: **September 27–October 17.**

—*Celeste Longacre*

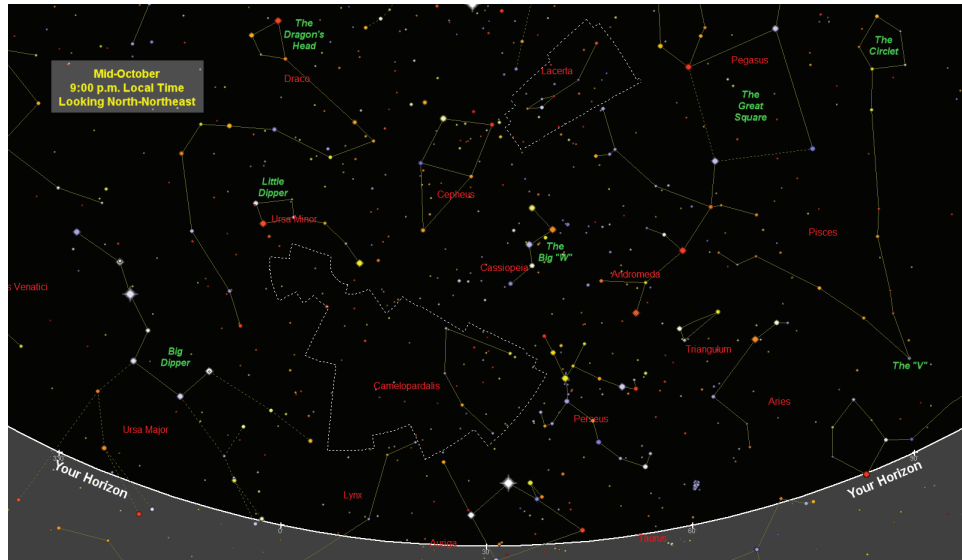
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2022 Moon Calendar

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CONSTELLATIONS, THEN AND NOW

As human beings, it is in our nature to seek order from chaos, to find patterns even where none exist. It's no surprise, then, that no matter how far back we look into recorded history, we find ancient peoples drawing sky maps and inventing names for what they observed.

Inevitably, ancient observers of the sky saw patterns in the stars—patterns that we now call “constellations.” Beginning at least 7,000 years ago, early astronomers were documenting mythological creatures, supernatural beings—even ordinary tools and weapons—all composed of stars. Over time, the names and even patterns of most constellations have changed as different cultures have applied their own mythology to the night sky. In fact, the 88 constellations that we recognize today were not agreed upon until the 20th century.

For most of recorded history, only the brightest or most distinctive star patterns were recognized as constellations. For millennia, some parts of the sky belonged to no constellation



TAP TO GET
A PRINTABLE
**OCTOBER
SKY MAP**



TAP TO
FOLLOW
OHIOAN JEFF
DETRAY'S SKY
ADVENTURES



at all. This was still the case in the 2nd century when Greek-Roman astronomer Claudius Ptolemy produced one of history's most important scientific writings, the *Almagest*. This colossal work comprised 13 books, each devoted to a different aspect of astronomy. Books VII and VIII concerned the stars and identified 48 constellations.

Over the next many centuries, astronomers slowly invented additional constellations from stars that Ptolemy had failed to include in his original 48. This month's sky map shows two of them.

In 1612, Dutch astronomer Petrus Plancius created the constellation **Camelopardalis, the Giraffe**, from a jumble of faint stars between Ursa Major and Perseus. The constellation **Lacerta, the Lizard**, was invented in 1690 by Polish astronomer Johannes Hevelius from otherwise unassigned stars between Cepheus and Pegasus. A prolific constellation inventor, Hevelius created seven new constellations where none had existed before. The star pattern of Camelopardalis looks nothing like its namesake, but the stars of Lacerta can at least be imagined as a reptile of some sort.

Throughout the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries, new constellations were gradually invented to fill in those parts of the sky that had none. Occasionally, there were conflicts, such as when Edmund Halley (of Halley's Comet fame) proposed a new constellation to honor King Charles II of England. Other astronomers rejected the idea of naming constellations for contemporary persons, so Charles's constellation never came to be.

The haphazard nature of constellations was on the agenda of the newly formed International Astronomical Union (IAU) at its first General Assembly in 1922. The assembled delegates decided that the sky would be divided into exactly 88 constellations and that their boundaries would be drawn so that every part of the sky lay within a constellation. No more unassigned stars!

All but one of Ptolemy's ancient 48 constellations made the IAU's modern list of 88. Because every point on the sky must lie within a constellation, the boundaries of some constellations resemble a gerrymandered Congressional district. Note the very convoluted outline of Camelopardalis on our sky map. The 88 IAU constellations are still in use today.

The items highlighted in green on our sky map are known as "asterisms." These are distinctive (but unofficial) star patterns that lie within constellations. When getting your bearings under the stars, it's often easiest to first spot an asterism and then use it as a guide to finding the parent constellation.

—Jeff DeTray

LIVING NATURALLY



10 New Uses for Coffee!

PHOTO: PIXABAY

I'll admit to a lifelong coffee addiction.

Fortunately, coffee grounds and leftover coffee have so many household uses—and may offer health and beauty benefits, too! From pest control to garden fertilizer to serving as a natural cleaning scrub and exfoliator, the many creative uses for coffee are almost limitless!

I love my coffee strong and black. The beans come from our local food co-op—Fair Trade, organic French roast—and we grind it fresh for every pot. This means a lot of coffee grounds.

Sometimes I feel that coffee contradicts many of my values. I stay far away from other addictive substances. I certainly don't grow it myself, and my consumption doesn't support local agriculture.

Still, drinking lots of coffee—as much as three to five or more cups per

day—has been associated with numerous health benefits, including a lower incidence of Type 2 diabetes, heart attack, and stroke and less depression, Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia, Parkinson's disease, and breast (some forms) and liver cancer.

However (*sigh*), it's important to note that the medical research supporting these health benefits consists largely of “observational” studies, which can't declare a definite cause-and-effect relationship between coffee drinking and a lowered risk of sustaining these chronic diseases.

So, from a health perspective, good science says that the jury's still out on coffee drinking. Nonetheless, strong coffee and its spent grounds do have a lot of other good uses:

1. Cook with leftover coffee. You can use some of that leftover morning coffee to add depth and

complexity to almost any marinade, gravy, sauce, or frosting or as part of the liquid in a soup, stew, fruit smoothie, or dessert.

Freeze leftover coffee for iced drinks or to thaw for cooking. Just pop into ice-cube trays and freeze. Then remove the cubes and store in a zippered plastic bag.

Add a tablespoon or two of freshly ground coffee beans to a cake, cookie, or brownie batter (coffee has a special affinity for chocolate).

2. Use coffee in the garden. Coffee grounds are most valuable as a nitrogen-rich kick-starter for the compost pile.

Add to your compost pile; once your compost has decomposed, add to your soil to help plants to grow!

3. Exfoliate and tone skin with coffee. Give yourself a full body exfoliation! Simply rub a handful of spent coffee grounds over your body or your face. Add a bit of olive

LIVING NATURALLY

oil to the grounds for a smoother finish. You can also add a handful of coffee grounds to improve the results from a facial scrub or hair conditioner.

4. Give hair shine.

For an instant shine, rub coffee grounds through damp hair after shampooing or add a few grounds to your hair conditioner, then rinse. The coffee grounds will darken light hair and give it a natural shine.

5. Darken hair or cover gray temporarily.

Dip freshly washed hair into a bowl of strong, dark coffee; squeeze out, then use a cup to pour coffee through your hair repeatedly. Pin it up under a large plastic bag for half an hour. Then rinse your hair and dry as usual. For a more dramatic coloring, make a thick paste of instant coffee or finely ground beans with hot water and apply the paste to sections of hair. Pin up under a large plastic bag for half an hour, then rinse.

6. Give fabrics an antique look. “Age” white or off-white natural fabrics. The longer you leave the article in the dye bath, the deeper the shade will be, but coffee always gives a soft, tan shade—never a deep brown.

7. Control wood-ash dust. Sprinkle the morning’s coffee grounds on ashes before scraping them from your stove or when you prepare to empty the ash pan.

8. Deodorize closets, car interiors, and the fridge and microwave.

To remove stale or musty odors, fill an empty butter tub with coffee grounds, punch holes in the cover, and set the tub in your closet, car, or fridge. Alternatively, tie up a cup of spent or fresh coffee grounds in a panty-hose leg and hang it on a hook in a closet or the pantry.

9. Hide scratches in dark wooden furniture. Use a cotton swab dipped in strong black coffee to brush small scratches in dark-stained wood. For

larger areas, make a paste of finely ground fresh beans or instant coffee and a little hot brewed coffee, brush the paste over the area, let dry, and then brush off the excess.

10. Remove stubborn stains. Use a wet coffee filter and a few spent grounds to scrub the stains from ceramic teacups or coffee cups. Sometimes a few coffee grounds and a stiff scrub brush will successfully remove burned-on food or grease from pots and pans.

—Margaret Boyles

It’s harvesttime! Learn how to make your produce internationally famous on Instagram, dill your green beans or pickle your



TAP TO READ MORE OF MARGARET BOYLES’S POSTS IN HER “LIVING NATURALLY” BLOG

jalapeños, and gather your homegrown grains for the drying process in the annual *Old Farmer’s Almanac Garden Guide!* Get a copy—or join the Gardening Club for even more info—at Almanac.com/Shop.

GARDENING



Bundle a Bouquet for Both You and the Birds

PHOTO: GARDENER'S SUPPLY

Mother Nature makes it easy to play interior decorator in the fall.

Blossoms may be finished, but seedheads of weeds, grasses, and many garden flowers are just as appealing in a vase.

Plus, they mirror the season outside the window and add a charming touch of nature indoors. Oh, and don't forget: No need for water with these arrangements!

To find the makings of your fall bouquet, just look around: Maybe you have billows of cinnamon-color 'Sweet Annie' in the herb garden. Keep an eye out for soft-bristle seedheads of foxtail grass along the roadside. Deep rusty-brown dock seeds beckon from fields, the dramatic spikes standing out like exclamation points against the bleached background.

Collect whatever

catches your eye (as long as it isn't poison ivy!)—and would appeal to the avians.

In case you don't know, there's an eager bird for just about every kind of seed:

Goldfinches, song sparrows, tree sparrows, field sparrows, juncos, purple finches, house finches, cardinals, and just about all other seed-eating birds love foxtail grass seeds.

- **Goldfinches, pine siskins, and native sparrows adore lamb's-quarter seeds.**
- **Cardinals seek out giant ragweed (in late fall, the irritating pollen is long gone).**
- **Downy woodpeckers scour mullein stalks.**
- **Juncos, as well as tree sparrows, song sparrows, and other little brown birds, eat dangling dock seeds.**
- **Mockingbirds bolt down bittersweet berries, and robins and bluebirds join them at the rose hips.**

The list goes on and on. Even a simple bunch of weeds holds the

makings of a real bird banquet.

Arranging the stems is the best part. Sometimes the bouquet is all of a kind—a fountain of foxtail grass spilling out of crock; a mix is wonderful, too.

The palette is mostly shades of blond, from the platinum candelabra of silvery-leaved mullein to the shining beige of milkweed pods and the warm honey of wild evening primrose. To add some punch to all of these delicate blondes, throw in a couple of redheads—rose hips or bittersweet.

Working with seed stems is messy; lots of seeds are still on the stalks. And dry materials are brittle, so bits of stem and leaf will break off. Either prepare for vacuuming later or make your bouquet outside.

Hold combinations in your hand first to see what looks good together.

Then poke the stems



We all love flowers but—for a change—think about putting foliage bouquets front and center: They're fun, festive, and fit in anywhere! Learn more about how in the annual *Old Farmer's Almanac Garden Guide*! Get a copy—or join the Gardening Club for even more info—at Almanac.com/Shop.

into a block of floral foam sized to fit your container, breaking or snipping off extra length as necessary.

Give your bouquet a place of honor where the diversity and beauty of nature can be admired. When you get tired of it (probably when you start thinking of pine and holly), recycle your masterpiece to its second life—at the bird-feeding station!

Fasten the bouquet to a feeder post, upside down, with the tops just above ground level. A few wraps of florist's wire hold the stems in place securely. If snow is on the ground when you're ready to recycle, simply stick the stems into the white stuff to anchor it.

Treasure to first delight the eye and later feed our friends—now that's a great reason to get out for an autumn walk.

—Sally Roth

FOOD



Sensational Sweet Potato Recipes

Sweet potatoes are versatile, nutritious, and low in calories, making for the perfect addition to any meal. We've gathered some delicious recipes for incorporating them into a stir-fry, casserole, and ice cream. Yes! Ice cream!

PHOTO: BECKY LUIGART-STAYNER

FOOD

Pork and Sweet Potato Stir-fry



PHOTO: SAMANTHA JONES

PORK AND SWEET POTATO STIR-FRY

- 2 tablespoons vegetable or avocado oil
- 12 ounces pork tenderloin, cut diagonally into 1/4-inch pieces
- 2 medium sweet potatoes, peeled and finely diced or julienned
- 8 ounces fresh or frozen snow peas
- 1 yellow bell pepper, chopped
- 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tablespoon freshly grated ginger
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 2 tablespoons hoisin sauce

Warm oil in a large wok or skillet over high heat. Add pork and cook until no longer pink. Add sweet potatoes and toss until beginning to soften. Add peas, peppers, garlic, and ginger and continue stir-frying until peppers are crisp-tender.

In a bowl, whisk together soy sauce, cornstarch, and 3 tablespoons of water until smooth. Add mixture to wok, stirring well. Cover, lower heat, and cook briefly, then uncover and stir in hoisin sauce. Serve immediately.

Makes 6 servings.

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FOOD



Pecan-Crusted Sweet Potato Casserole

PHOTO: BECKY LUGART-STAYNER

PECAN-CRUSTED SWEET POTATO CASSEROLE

FILLING:

4 large sweet potatoes
4 tablespoons (1/2 stick)
unsalted butter, in pieces,
softened
1/2 cup sugar
1/3 cup light cream or milk
2 eggs, at room temperature
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon ground allspice

TOPPING:

4 tablespoons (1/2 stick)
unsalted butter, melted
2/3 cup brown sugar
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon salt
2/3 cup pecan halves

For filling: Preheat oven to 350°F. Butter a 2-quart casserole dish. Line a baking sheet with aluminum foil.

Pierce each sweet potato several times with a fork and place on prepared baking sheet. Bake for 60 to 70 minutes, or until soft and tender when pierced. Transfer baking sheet to a cooling rack. Cut a slit in sweet potatoes lengthwise and cool for 15 to 20 minutes.

Scoop sweet potato flesh into a large bowl and mash it. Add butter, sugar, and cream and, using an electric mixer on medium-high speed, beat to blend. Add eggs, one at a time, and beat to combine. Add vanilla, salt, and allspice and beat until evenly mixed. Spread mixture in casserole dish.

If you turned off the oven while sweet potatoes cooled, preheat oven back to 350°F.

For topping: In a food processor or blender, add butter, brown sugar, flour, cinnamon, and salt and pulse briefly.

Spread topping evenly over sweet potato mixture. Top with pecans. Bake for 45 minutes, or until casserole is puffed slightly and topping is light brown. Transfer to a cooling rack for 15 to 20 minutes before serving.

Makes 8 to 10 servings.

FOOD

No-Churn Sweet Potato Ice Cream

PHOTO: BECKY LUGART-STAYNER

NO-CHURN SWEET POTATO ICE CREAM

- 1-1/2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 3/4 cup chopped pecans
- 1-1/4 tablespoons dark-brown sugar
- 1 cup mini marshmallows
- scant 2 cups puréed sweet potatoes
- 1 can (14 ounces) sweetened condensed milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- pinch grated nutmeg
- 2 cups heavy whipping cream, chilled

Place a 9x5-inch loaf pan in the freezer and allow to chill while preparing ice cream. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper and set aside.

In a skillet, melt butter over medium heat. Add pecans and toast lightly, stirring occasionally, for 2 minutes, or until fragrant. Sprinkle brown sugar over pecans and cook, stirring constantly for 2 to 3 minutes, or until sugar caramelizes and makes a glaze. Pour candied pecans onto prepared baking sheet in a single layer. Set aside and allow to cool and harden.

On a nonstick baking sheet, spread out marshmallows, making sure that they are not touching. Place baking sheet in oven and broil marshmallows until lightly browned. Watch them closely. Set aside and allow to cool completely.

In a bowl, whisk together sweet potato purée, condensed milk, vanilla, cinnamon, ginger, and nutmeg until smooth.

In the bowl of a stand mixer, whip heavy cream for 3 to 5 minutes, or until medium peaks form. Using a spatula, very gently fold sweet potato mixture into whipped cream. Add candied pecans and marshmallows and gently fold a few times to fully incorporate.

Pour mixture into chilled loaf pan and cover tightly with plastic wrap, making sure the plastic touches the ice cream to help in preventing crystallization. Place a second layer of plastic wrap over the top, sealing the edges of the pan, and put into freezer for at least 6 hours.

Makes 10 to 12 servings.

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See for yourself on the following *actual* pages!

OCTOBER

MOON NAME: FULL HUNTER'S MOON

1

Henry Ford's Model T automobile introduced (\$850 price), 1908



3

Actor Noah Schnapp born, 2004



5

Laurie Skreslet became first Canadian to summit Mt. Everest, 1982

7

First photos of dark side of Moon, 1959



8

Singer Bruno Mars born, 1985

11

U.S. president Jimmy Carter received Nobel Peace Prize, 2002

12

Columbus Day "Big Blow" in Oregon and Washington brought 100-mph winds, 1962

14

National Dessert Day



17

Ashrita Furman balanced 100 ice cream scoops on cone, 2013



19

First wedding in a balloon took place over Cincinnati, Ohio, 1874



22

Rare purple lobster caught off coast of Winter Harbor, Maine, 2019

24

Three tornadoes spurred by thunderstorms, Flagstaff, Arizona, 1992

25

Singer Katy Perry born, 1984



26

Canadian Rob Krueger became World Rock Paper Scissors champion, 2003



29

Olympic swimmer Amanda Beard born, 1981

31

All Hallows' Eve

*Listen! the wind is rising, and the air is wild with leaves,
We have had our summer evenings, now for October eves!*

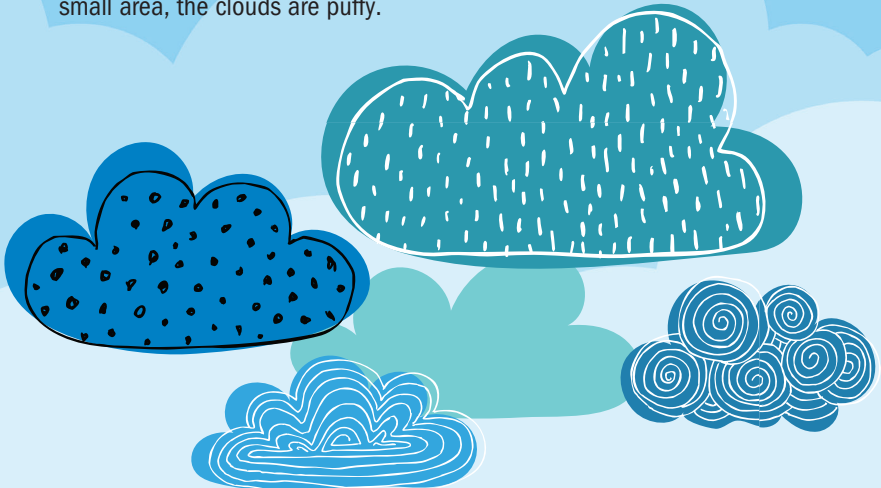
-Humbert Wolfe, English poet (1886-1940)

Up in the Clouds

Clouds form when water vapor rises, cools, and condenses. Earth's surface features plenty of water—oceans, rivers, lakes, and ponds—and our air is full of water vapor that we don't even know is there. Water vapor can rise for three different reasons:

- It is warmed by the Sun.
- Cold air moves in and pushes the warm air upward.
- Winds blow up against mountains, forcing wind and water vapor upward.

The method of rising determines which kinds of clouds form. When air rises over a large area, layered clouds form. When warm air rises quickly over a small area, the clouds are puffy.



How Much Does a Cloud Weigh?

A typical **CUMULUS CLOUD** may be a half-mile across and a half-mile deep. A cloud that size could weigh 500 tons because of all the water droplets in it. So, how do they float if they weigh so much?

Clouds are held up by wind. As rising air causes water vapor to cool and condense, a cloud is formed. The same updrafts, or air currents, that create clouds also keep the tiny water droplets in the air. These remain suspended across a large area until enough of them combine to become heavy enough to form rain. Raindrops, then, can be thought of as tiny pieces of cloud falling on you!



**THE CLOUDS—
THE ONLY BIRDS
THAT NEVER SLEEP.**

—Victor Hugo, French poet (1802–85)



Beware of Dark Clouds

Clouds that hold a lot of moisture look dark because the water droplets inside absorb light that is passing through. Light-color clouds such as **CIRRUS (1)** and **CIRROCUMULUS (2)** contain relatively little moisture. Cirrus clouds are made almost entirely of ice crystals. Clouds such as **ALTOCUMULUS (3)** are composed mostly of water droplets and may appear as gray, puffy masses.

Everybody loves *The Old Farmer's Almanac for Kids!*

Kids can't put it down,
and parents—and grandparents—
can't wait to pick it up!



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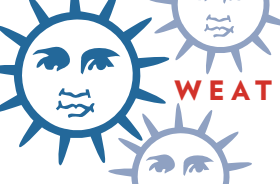
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Brand-new Volume 9 of *The Old Farmer's Almanac for Kids* is available now wherever books and magazines are sold. If “local”—which we recommend!—is not an option, you can order yours from the U.S. (\$9.95) at Almanac.com/Shop or Amazon.com. In Canada (\$10.95), your online source is Amazon.ca.

For lots of educational fun, consider getting a copy today for your kids, your grandkids, yourself, or everybody!



WEATHER FORECASTS

IF OCTOBER BRING HEAVY FROSTS AND WIND, THEN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY WILL BE MILD.

HOW WE MAKE OUR PREDICTIONS

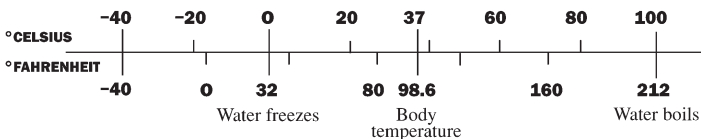
We derive our weather forecasts from a secret formula that was devised by the founder of this Almanac, Robert B. Thomas, in 1792. Thomas believed that weather on Earth was influenced by sunspots, which are magnetic storms on the surface of the Sun.

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 1981 through 2010.

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

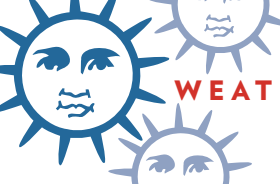
CELSIUS-FAHRENHEIT TABLE



TAP TO FIND OUT THE WEATHER HISTORY OF THE DAY

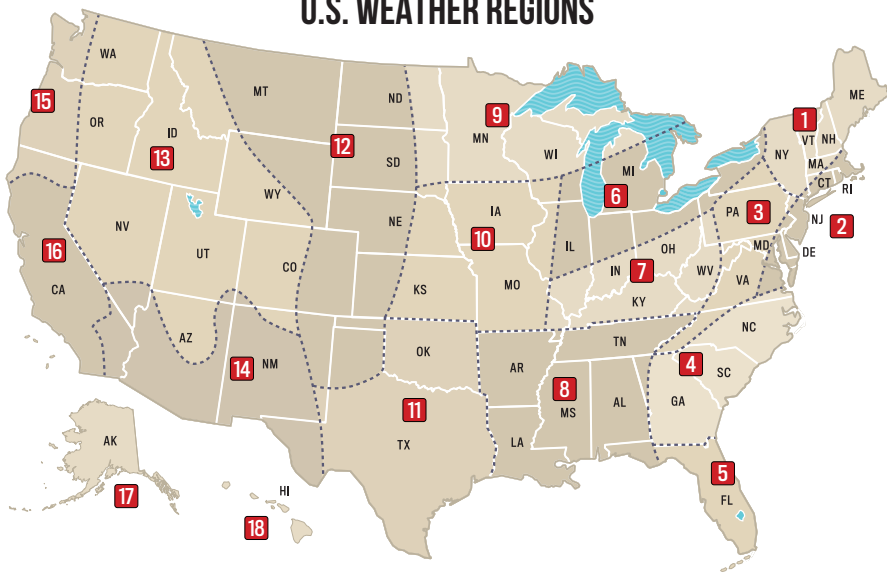


LOVE ALL THINGS WEATHER? TAP FOR THE WEATHER FOLKLORE OF THE DAY



WEATHER FORECASTS

U.S. WEATHER REGIONS



CANADIAN WEATHER REGIONS



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





COOL, WITH SPELLS OF SPOOKINESS

Child Health Day is October 4 across the United States, so make sure that your children have umbrellas if they are in New England, the Pacific Northwest, Alaska, or Hawaii, where rainy periods will dampen outdoor activities. Don't be fooled by sunshine elsewhere—with cool temperatures the rule in most areas, your kids will need a jacket.

Leif Eriksson Day, celebrated on October 9 in the United States, recognizes the first European to set foot in North America, some 500 years before Columbus. Most areas will have appropriately chilly temperatures, with warmer air limited to Florida and California.

On October 11—Columbus Day and/or Indigenous Peoples' Day in the United States and Thanksgiving Day in Canada—chilly temperatures will be the rule everywhere except for Florida and Ontario, where milder weather will prevail. Expect snow showers in interior New England, with rainy periods in most of the other states and dry weather in most of Canada.

Alaska Day is October 18, when cold temperatures will predominate, with sunshine in the south and snow showers in the central and northern portions of the 49th state.

United Nations Day, October 24, will see most of the United States united in cool temperatures, while most of Canada will unite with relatively mild weather. Most of both nations will have showers, with snowy periods in interior New England, Alaska, Ontario, and the Northwest Territories.



Warm temperatures will predominate in its namesake state on Nevada Day, October 29, with scattered showers mainly in southern areas.

Halloween is my favorite day of the year, as it is the one day when people don't scream in terror when they see my face. The good news for trick-or-treaters is that dry weather will be the rule in most areas, although seasonally cool temperatures will predominate. Rain and snow showers will dampen bags and buckets in New England, the Appalachians, Lower Lakes, Upper Midwest, Intermountain region, and Alaska in the United States and from Atlantic Canada to Ontario and in British Columbia and the Northwest Territories in Canada.

October temperatures will be cooler than normal, on average, across most of the United States and Canada, although the Intermountain region, Arizona, California, Oregon, Washington, southern Alaska, Kona (Hawaii), the Canadian Prairies, Yukon, and the Northwest Territories will have above-normal readings. Precipitation will be above normal in most of the eastern half of Canada and the United States and below normal in most other areas.

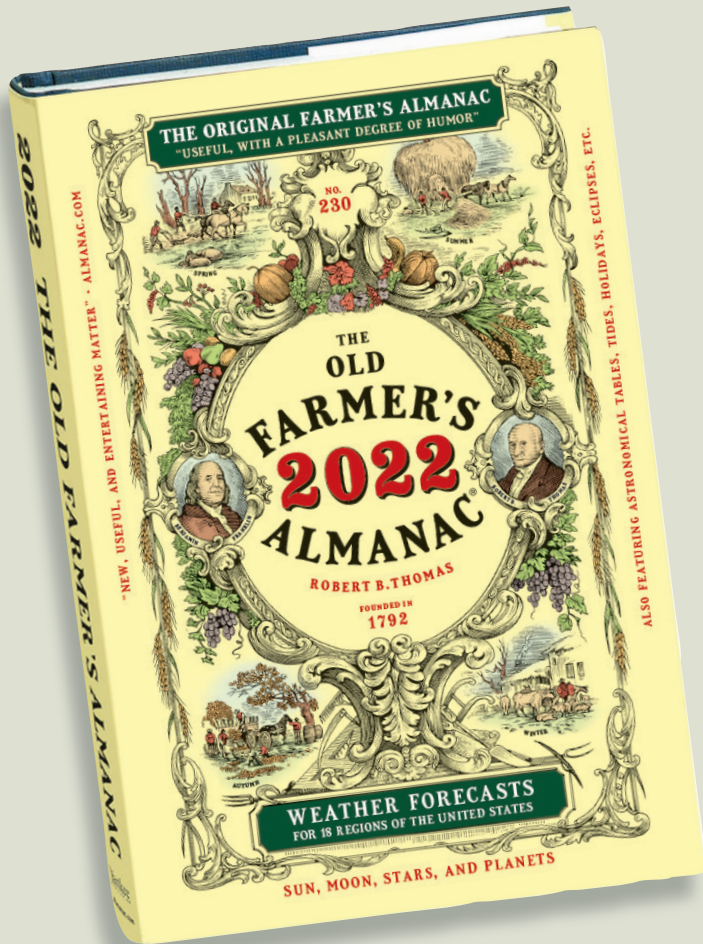
Across the United States, autumn temperatures will be warmer than normal in the Intermountain and Pacific Northwest and Pacific Southwest regions and Alaska and below normal elsewhere. Precipitation will be above normal in the Northeast and Delmarva; from the eastern Great Lakes southwestward to the Tennessee Valley; and in southern Texas, the southern and central High Plains, the western Desert Southwest, the Pacific Southwest, and southern Alaska. It will be and near or below normal elsewhere.

In Canada, autumn temperatures will be below normal in Quebec and Ontario and near or above normal elsewhere. Precipitation will be above normal from Atlantic Canada westward into eastern Ontario and below normal from central Ontario westward to the Pacific.

Finally, looking ahead to winter, important factors will include a weak La Niña, a continued warm phase in the Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation (AMO), a neutral to positive phase in the North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO), and the Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) in the early stages of its warm cycle. Oscillations are linked ocean-atmosphere patterns that influence the weather over periods of weeks to years. This should lead to a colder-than-normal winter across most of the United States with milder-than-normal temperatures across most of Canada.

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

The Old Farmer's Almanac 2022 Hardcover Edition



A comprehensive and trustworthy guide to 2022, with weather forecasts, gardening advice, astronomical events, and more!

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HUMOR ME

GRINS AND GROANS FROM THE ALMANAC



DRIVIN' DIAGNOSIS

A big red touring car came roaring down the road and struck a pedestrian, sending him head over heels and rolling him in the mud. By the time the car was able to come to a stop and its owner run back to the victim, the latter was being attended to by a doctor who had happened to be standing nearby.

"Is he dead?" the

driver asked.

"I don't think so," said the medical man. "Merely run down."

PACKAGE DEAL

Three boys were bragging about how prominent their fathers were.

The minister's son said, "Every package that comes to my papa is marked 'D.D.'"

"Well," said the doctor's son, "every

package that my dad gets is marked 'M.D.'"

"Two letters is nothing," said the third boy. "Every package that comes to our house is marked 'C.O.D.!'"

HEAVENLY GUIDANCE

Jimmy and his pals were shooting marbles as the new minister came along.

"Boys, can you show me the way to the post



office?”

Jimmy pointed the way and went back to his marbles.

“Young men,” admonished the minister, “don’t you know that it is wrong to play marbles? It’s a form of gambling. Come with me, and I will show you the way to heaven!”

“Please, mister!” responded Jimmy.

“How can you show me the way to heaven if you don’t even know the way to the post office?”

ROBBED OF MOTIVATION

Three men were determined to rob a certain house. On the night of the dirty deed, one of them entered the building and started upstairs. When he reached the landing, his boots squeaked and a female voice cried out:

“You go right downstairs and take those boots off! I’m tired of having to clean up mud and dirt after you. March right down and take them off!”

The burglar turned about, went down the stairs, and joined his companions outside.

“I can’t do this,” he reported. “It’s like robbing my own home.”

CAGE-FREE

“You say you are innocent of stealing a rooster from Mr. Robertson?” asked an Arkansas judge of a meek-looking prisoner.

“Yes, sir, and I can prove it.”

“How can you prove it?”

“Because I stole two hens from Mr. Grasston on the same night, and he lives 5 miles from Robertson.”

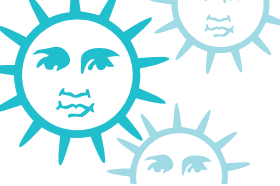
“The proof is conclusive,” ruled the judge. “Release the prisoner.”

MINER PROBLEM

Not long ago, three scientists from an eastern institution visited a certain Montana strip mine to do research. One of the men—evidently of a most nervous temperament—thought that he saw signs of weakness in the ropes that were holding up the gondola in which they were riding to the top of the mine.

When they were about halfway up, he asked the attendant: “How often do you change these ropes?”

“Oh, about every 3 months,” came the reply. “But don’t worry: These are due for it tomorrow.”



WHAT'S NEXT



GARDENING

Guard your fruit trees to protect them from winter's wildlife



CALENDAR

Moon phases; November name origin, holidays, and full Moon names; Poem of the Month



ASTRONOMY

Explore with our Sky Map



ALMANAC FOR KIDS

All about new Volume 9!



FOOD

Holiday Side Dishes



LIVING NATURALLY

How to cultivate gratitude within

Plus: Weather Update • U.S. and Canadian Weather Forecasts • Gardening by the Moon's Sign • Best Days to Do Things • Humor • and much more in the November *EXTRA!*

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