

A CALENDAR OF NATURAL EVENTS

	1 st week	2 nd week	3 rd week	4 th week
DEC.			Wood turtles go into hibernation. December 21, Winter Solstice.	Mice feed on grass shoots and bark. Watch for tracks after first snow.
JAN.	January 6, Twelfth Night - traditionally animals are able to speak on this night.	Stoneflies emerge as adults. First heavy snows.	Mating season for raccoons. January thaw - watch for honeybee flights.	The Hunger Moon of the American Indian - the hardest time of the year. Mating season for musk.
FEB.	Redpoll flights arrive. Listen for fox yelps. February 2, Ground Hog Day.	Great horned owls nest. Skunks mate.	On the coast, snow buntings move northward.	Mating season for foxes. Red-winged blackbirds return.
MARCH	Geese and ducks move northward. Pussy willows appear.	Blackbirds return. Song sparrows and fox sparrows arrive.	First hardy flowers. March 21, first day of spring.	

WINTER

A CALENDAR OF NATURAL EVENTS

	1 st week	2 nd week	3 rd week	4 th week
MARCH				Skunk cabbage well up. Blackbirds, robins and song sparrows have returned. Shoots of day lily up.
APRIL	Wood frogs call. Salamander migration. Mourning cloak butterflies. Red maples bloom in swamps. Pussy willows out.	Spring peepers call. Tree swallows return. Phoebes. Forsythia blooms.	Spring azure butterflies. Toads call. Heose wrens. Spicebush blooms.	Catbirds. Swifts and barn swallows. Birch catkins out. Quaker-ladies bloom.
MAY	Black and white warblers. Yellow-rumped warblers. Dogwoods flower. Shadbush out. Violets bloom.	Warbler migration. Rose-breasted grosbeaks. Towhees. Columbine blooms. Bloodroot flowers in open woods.	Indigo buntings. Great crested flycatchers. Lilacs bloom. Dandelions out. Buttercups.	Wood peckers. Flycatchers. Apple trees flower. Canada may flowers bloom.
JUNE	Young mammals leave nests. Wild geraniums and yuccas bloom.	First brood of young birch leaf nests. Ox-eye daisy. Orange hawkweed.	First cutting of hay. Day lily flowers. Barnyardberries. Lady's slipper.	

SPRING

A CALENDAR OF NATURAL EVENTS

	1 st week	2 nd week	3 rd week	4 th week
JUN.	Toad tadpoles in shallow ponds. Daisy and yarrow bloom. Orion nests at ends of elm branches.	Tiger swallowtail butterflies. Fireflies appear. Blood nymph butterflies.	Bats out in full force. Devils paintbrush blooming in fields. Viceroy butterflies. June bugs.	Meadow crickets calling. First cutting of hay. Bullfrogs calling.
JULY	Paper wasp nests complete. Deer flies. Red admiral butterfly. 17-year locust calls.	Mullein in bloom. Day lily flowers. Gray tree frogs call. Monarch butterflies appear.	Chicory in blossom along roadsides. Indian pipes in deep woods.	Praying mantises abundant. Snowy tree cricket calls. Katydid begin to call.
AUG.	Night chorus of insects in full swing. Barn swallows begin to gather on wires.	Burdock blooms. Forsyth meteor showers in northeast sky, 10 p.m. Corn is ripe.	Early morning spider webs. First asters. Nighthawks pass.	Corn swallows leave. First wave of fall warbler migration. Fall webworms.
SEPT.	Tree swallow migration. Watch full moon for passing bird migrants.	Green darner migration. Goldfinches and asters in full bloom.	Monarch butterfly migration. Broad-winged hawks on the move. Apples ripe.	

SUMMER

A CALENDAR OF NATURAL EVENTS

	1 st week	2 nd week	3 rd week	4 th week
SEPT.				Mushrooms appear after rains. Fall webworm webs. Monarch butterfly migration.
OCT.	Fall fruits. Sharp-shinned hawk migration.	Vine berries appear. Sensitive ferns hit by frosts. Juncos arrive. Fall color at height.	Nuts ripe. Blackbird migration. Yellow-rumped warblers migrate.	Grosbeaks and purple finches arrive. Chipmunks go under-ground.
NOV.	Canada geese migrate. Listen for the last calls of the meadow crickets. Red-tailed hawks migrate.	Fall cankerworms emerge. Slugs and snails go into hibernation. Watch for old birds' nests as leaves go.	Nests leave paper nests for nooks and crevices. Deer herds gathering. Witch hazel in bloom.	Early snows. Pine grosbeaks arrive. Milkweed pods open.
DEC.	Starling flocks form. Redpolls arrive. Watch for lingering migrants.	Watch for the winter coats of small mammals. Goldfinches active.	Ducks active as ponds freeze over. Watch for wintergreen and partridge berries. Winter solstice.	Watch for new birds at feeders as snows come in. Orion visible.

FALL