

OUTDOOR ALMANAC

NOVEMBER 2018



3 Listen for **woodpeckers** drumming on tree trunks. While woodpeckers peck at tree bark to uncover insects to eat, the loud repetitive drumming is for communication.



7 American Robins and **Cedar Waxwings** forage for berries in wild cherry, dogwood, sumac, and viburnum tree and plant species.

9 Both fall field-cricket adults and spring field-cricket nymphs collect under old boards, loose stones, or in your house.



11 Watch for wintering **Snow Buntings** and Horned Larks in fields and open areas as they search for seeds on withered, golden grasses.

12 Look for newly arrived Purple Sandpipers perfectly camouflaged on windswept boulders in Gloucester, Scituate, Westport, and other rocky shorelines.



15 **Rough-legged Hawks** winter in open, treeless areas similar to the Arctic tundra where they breed. Look for them hovering over fields, hunting for prey.

17-18 The Leonids, one of the most active meteor showers, peak just before dawn.

19 While Princess Pines can be found growing on the forest floor near Eastern White Pines, they are actually clubmosses and not tiny pine trees. Related to ferns, these nonvascular plants never grow more than six inches high and produce spores, not seeds.

20 **Snowy Owls** have arrived and will stay here through March. Look for them at Plum Island, Duxbury Beach, and other open, treeless areas near the coast.



23 **Full Moon.** For the Abenaki tribe, this was the Freezing River Moon, as smaller, slower-moving rivers and lakes started to ice over at this time of the year. Today, with climate change, there are almost no sizable bodies of water in New England that freeze in November.



25 Look around your yard or along forest paths for the round, inch-deep, cone-shaped holes left by **Striped Skunks** as they forage for grubs, earthworms, salamanders, rodents, fungi, nuts, and seeds.



27 Bright-red Partridgeberry fruits are easy to spot along the plant's trailing stems, which lie on the forest floor.

30 Early snowfalls bring an opportunity to see wildlife tracks of **squirrels**, rabbits, foxes, and skunks, or even Fishers and Coyotes.

