

OUTDOOR ALMANAC

NOVEMBER 2019



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



7 There are several species of native oak trees in Massachusetts. Collect freshly fallen leaves to appreciate the similarities and differences between the 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 **Full moon.** The Farmers' Almanac calls this the Beaver Moon, as this is the time when beaver are repairing their lodges and caching small branches underwater for their winter food supply.

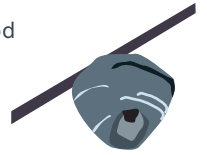
13 Look for newly arrived Purple Sandpipers perfectly camouflaged on windswept boulders in Gloucester, Scituate, Westport, and other rocky shorelines.



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 Bald-faced Hornets create intricate hanging nests made up of chewed wood mixed with hornet saliva. These **nests** are only used for one season, so after a couple of hard frosts it's possible to dissect these nests and appreciate their complex architecture



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.



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 Look on the ground or up in the tops of the trees to see how many different types of cones you can find. Every different type of coniferous tree produces a different cone—they're not all pine cones.

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

