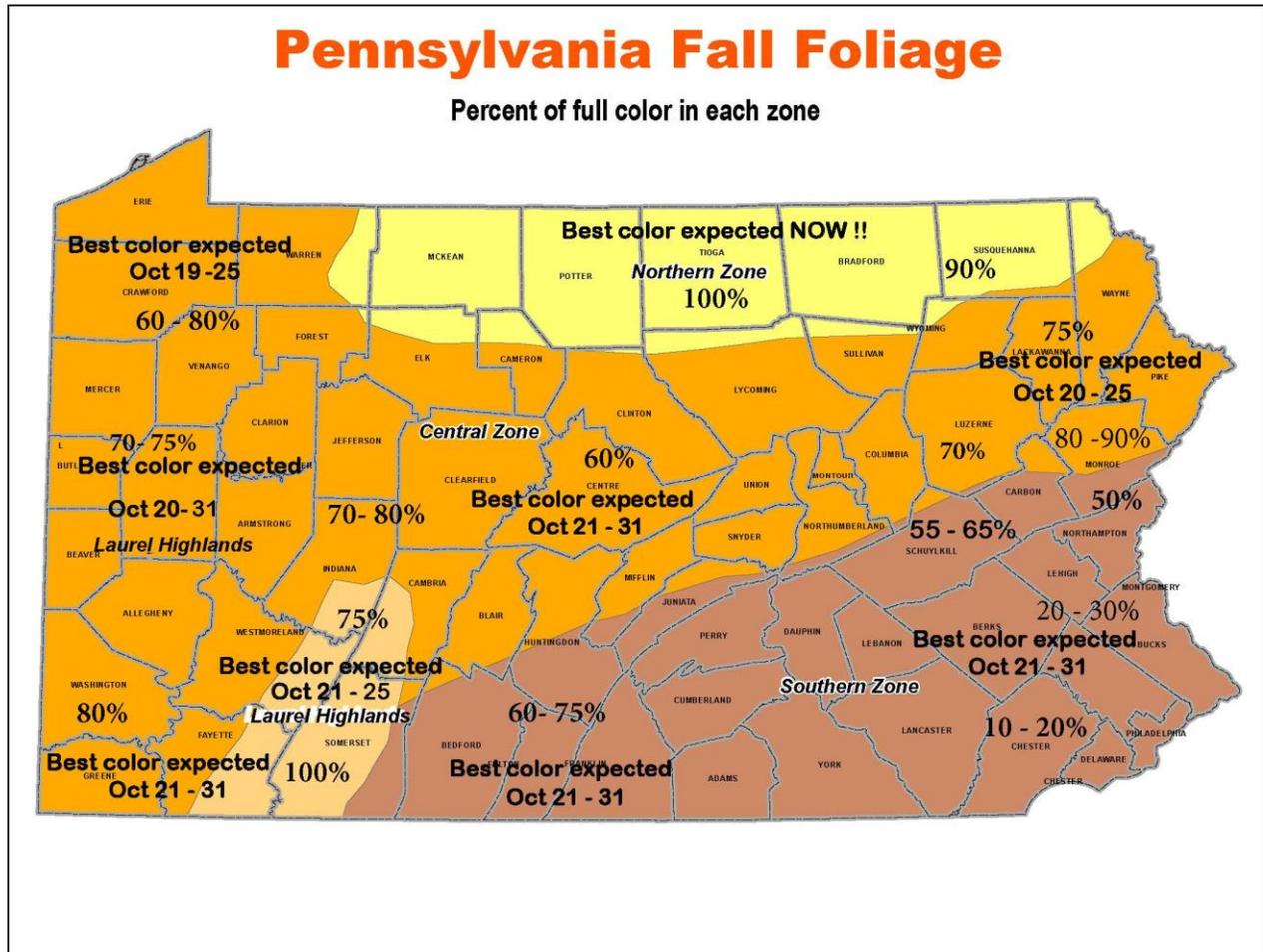


**Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Bureau of Forestry**

**PENNSYLVANIA WEEKLY FALL FOLIAGE REPORT
October 20 - 26, 2016**



NORTHERN REGION, (Northern Wayne County and all of Susquehanna, Bradford, Tioga, Potter and McKean Counties)

This region is at 100% of full color. The colors are wonderful right now.

CENTRAL REGION,

A funnel-shaped band with its narrow end in southern Wayne and Pike Counties. It stretches across the central third of Pennsylvania to Fayette, Greene and Washington Counties. This region widens to the northwest to include Erie and Warren Counties.

NW counties

The colors of fall are on full display everywhere you look in northwest Pennsylvania. It seems like every hillside is a palate of reds, yellows, oranges and browns. The leaves have begun to fall, but there is still a lot of color to enjoy from our woodlands. Roadside stands are loaded with pumpkins and the last vegetables from the garden. It's a perfect time to take a drive to your favorite state park or state forest or just take a walk around the neighborhood to enjoy the colors of fall!!!



Warren County fall colors

Photographer Cecile Stelter PaDCNR

Some routes to enjoy fall colors include: Route 8 from Barkeyville (off I-80) north into Erie County; Route 6 through Erie and Warren Counties and east; Route 322 beginning in Crawford County and heading east towards Clarion and along the Allegheny River on Route 62 north of Oil City towards Warren.

Indiana, Cambria and Blair counties.

The yellows, oranges and reds are gorgeous. The red maples and sugar maples are particularly colorful this year. Routes 219 and 56 are good right now for soaking in the fall colors.

Northeast Counties

The maples and hickories are providing all shades of color as we wait on the changing of the oaks



Seven Tubs Natural Area, Luzerne county Photographer Tim Latz

Mid State counties

The counties surrounding Centre County are at about 60% of full color. The red maples, hickory, black gum and sassafras are providing most of the color at this time in advance of the oaks.



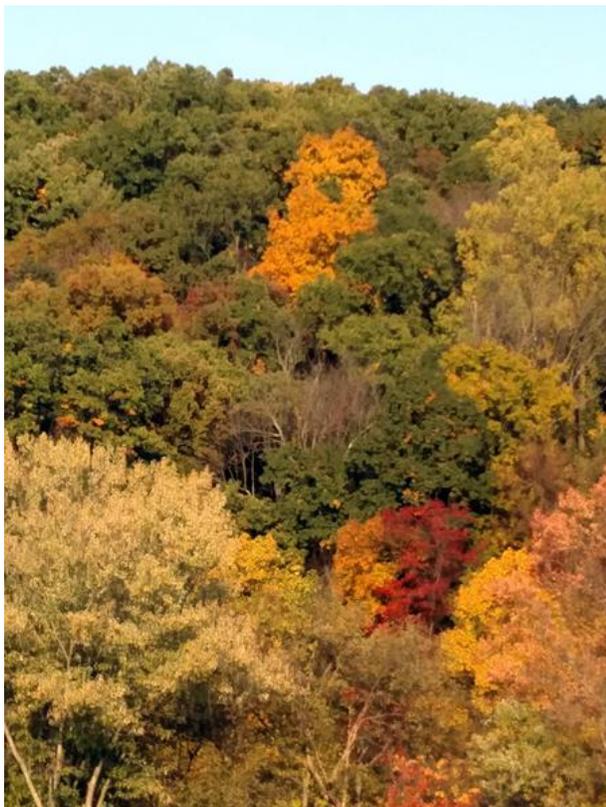
Penn's View Vista, Bald Eagle SF Photographer Dan Dermotta PaDCNR

Pa Route 144 between Snow Shoe and Renovo is a good route for leaf peeping. There are also two places to go that are spectacular right now. They are Two Rock Vista and Russell P. Letterman wild area. Both of these locations have picnic tables and portable toilets.

SOUTHERN REGION

The area south and east of a line through southern Monroe, Dauphin, Bedford and southeastern Somerset Counties is included in the southern region.

Another week and another minor change to the foliage in southeastern Pennsylvania. The Blue Mountain Range at the northern end of our district continues to make small, but consistent advances in our color change endeavor. The mountain range itself is at about 50% color with some of the larger, mature trees starting to change. Many if not all of the smaller saplings have already begun to show their yellow's and orange.



Colors in the eastern southern region are still somewhat scattered but brilliant. David A. Schmit Pa DCNR

The noticeable change this week however, is our central portion of district which the Lehigh Valley encompasses. The oaks on the hillsides are still green but many of the trees in the lower elevations have begun to start changing colors.

In the western counties to the base of the Allegheny Front, color changes are taking place rapidly. The maples are in full color with their pinks through oranges and deep reds. The hickories are all in with their brilliant yellow gold. Many of the smaller shrubs and vines have assumed brilliant red hues. The birches are mostly colored with yellows to tans. Even the oaks have begun.



Red maple and sugar maple, Bedford County

Some oaks are already in surprisingly red foliage and many of the others are beginning to lose their chlorophyll. After the plant grows the abscission layer which cuts off all nutrient flow from the plant, the chlorophyll continues to break down normally but is not replaced. As this happens, the other pigments that were beneath the green emerge. The green pales as this is taking place and can be seen on the hillsides.

LAUREL HIGHLANDS

Peak color has been delayed due to drought-like conditions the past several weeks; peak color is expected this weekend thru next weekend for the Laurel Mountain and Mt. Davis areas of Forbes State Forest.

Mt. Davis - southern Somerset County

Mount Davis is at peak color right now.

Laurel Mountain and Laurel Ridge – Westmoreland & Somerset Counties

This area is at/almost at peak color. Mid-week throughout this weekend you will still be able to observe the bright foliage colors. The maples, sassafras, and birches are changing rapidly. Leaves are beginning to drop.

Pondfield, Chestnut Ridge – Fayette, Greene, and Washington Counties

This area is progressively changing; poplar, black gums, and maples are their bright autumn colors. However, colors are still somewhat spotty throughout the canopy, with a good bit of green.