



West Virginia Division of Forestry
www.wvforestry.com
Joe Manchin III, Governor
Randy Dye, Director/State Forester

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Contact: Leslie Fitzwater, Public Information Specialist (304) 558-2003 ext. 342,
Leslie.C.Fitzwater@wv.gov

State Forester anticipates colorful fall foliage season **Higher elevations offer limited early-season color**

CHARLESTON, W. Va. – Autumn is here and so is the anticipation of West Virginia’s fall foliage season. When the state’s hardwood forests are at peak color with their radiant reds, bright yellows and rustic oranges, leaf peepers are guaranteed a magnificent show.

“West Virginia is the third-most-forested state in the country with nearly 80 percent or 12 million acres of land covered with trees,” said Director/State Forester Randy Dye. “Our landscape is perfect for those wishing to view the changing leaves.”

Although expectation of brilliant fall color is high, most of the state’s foliage is only in the beginning phases of transition.

Higher elevations of Greenbrier, Pocahontas, Randolph, Webster, Preston and Tucker counties currently have the most color change with foliage around 15 percent peak. Although color is limited, State Route 72 through Canaan Valley and the Highland Scenic Highway are always pleasant drives and could offer some color for those eager to hop in the car and get an early start on the season.

Areas such as Moorefield and Brandywine in Hardy County and Terra Alta in Preston County are displaying their spectacular fall hues as well.

Virginia creepers and maples presently have the most color.

The Division of Forestry will provide fall foliage reports throughout the month of October. For more information about fall foliage, visit Forestry’s Web site at www.wvforestry.com.

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Regional Offices
Farmington (304) 825-6983
Beckley (304) 256-6775
Milton (304) 743-6186