



## New Hampshire Fall Foliage Report 2011



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### Fall Foliage Report for Wednesday, September 28, 2011

**Great North Woods Region (Grand North):** If you want to see fabulous autumn colors, head on up to the Great North Woods region! Scenic drives along Route 3 from Colebrook to Pittsburg are just dazzling right now. Watch for moose and other wildlife along this road, also known as Moose Alley. Or follow Route 145 to Beaver Brook Wayside Area for stunning waterfalls framed with beautiful colors. Route 26 takes you through Dixville Notch, where you can hike to overlooks and get inspiring views of the surrounding mountains and valleys. Route 16 from Milan to Errol takes you past the Androscoggin River, which is now edged with vibrant fall reds and oranges. The region is a foliage lovers paradise right now, whether you're driving, hiking, biking or paddling.

**White Mountains Region:** Our leaf peepers in the White Mountains region are happy to report well-established color changes, mostly on the higher elevations. Look for strong colors on the Kancamagus Highway, Route 302, and all side roads in between, especially on the western side of the region. Traveling along Interstate 93 brings you through Franconia Notch State Park, where you can visit The Flume Gorge, or take the Cannon Mountain Tramway for a bird's eye view of the flashy reds and oranges. The park has plenty of hiking opportunities, too, so make a day trip of it and bring your camera. Scenic drivers will want to explore some of the smaller east to west back roads for beautiful panoramic views. Route 49 through Waterville Valley is coloring up nicely, as is the town of Littleton. On the eastern side, the Mount Washington Valley is beginning to show some nice yellows and reds. Another week or so will push this region into full fall color mode!

**Lakes Region:** One week made a big difference in the colors of the Lakes Region. The higher elevations of the Ossipee and Belknap Mountain ranges are showing some reds and yellows. Scenic drives along Routes 28, 109, and 109A are good roads to travel to see color changes, as well as Route 171 from Ossipee to Moultonborough. Route 140 between Alton and Tilton is starting to brighten up as well. The ash trees are turning muted maroon, bright green and vibrant yellow, with more color to come. Some good ways to view the foliage in this region are by scenic drives, lake cruises, airplane rides, and railroads. Make plans now to visit the lakes during this colorful time of year.

**Dartmouth-Lake Sunapee Region:** Although the overall area of the Dartmouth-Lake Sunapee region is still green, there are reports of some color change happening along Route 4A from Lebanon to Andover. Other areas are about 25% changed, with the maples showing bright oranges and reds. Wetland and swampy areas are displaying some beautiful reds, and the mountain summits are showing some change among the green. Route 120 between Claremont and Hanover will be a nice scenic drive once the color strikes. Look for the foliage around Lake Sunapee to become more pronounced in another week or two.

**Monadnock Region:** The fall foliage is settling nicely into the Monadnock Region, with bursts of color popping up all over the area. Lots of oranges and reds are lining a lot of the roads, and Mount Monadnock is beginning to color with reds and yellows. Route 124 from Jaffrey to Marlborough is a good bet for scenic beauty; so is Route 9 from Hillsborough to Keene, and Route 32 from Richmond to Swanzey. Look for migrating water birds along the ponds and rivers; loons, herons, and geese love to hang around these wetlands. Make plans now to climb Mount Monadnock in a couple of weeks when the fall colors reach their peak.

**Merrimack Valley Region:** Our leaf peepers in the Merrimack Valley Region are reporting just beginning color throughout the area. Keeping in tradition with foliage history, this region always seems to take its sweet time changing colors, and then all at once it appears to change overnight. Try these roads to view some early fall color: Route 111 from Salem to Nashua; Route 102 from Londonderry to Chester; and Route 13 from Goffstown to Hopkinton. This region needs a good cold snap to push the fall colors into play.

**Seacoast Region:** Some of the trees are beginning to change slightly in the Seacoast Region. Look for patches of red and orange along waterways and edging fields and meadows. There's nothing vibrant yet, but the leaves on many trees are lightening up, which means glorious fall color is on the way. Consider traveling these roads when the color begins to bloom: Route 27 from Hampton to Exeter; Route 88 through Hampton Falls; and Route 155 from Dover to Lee.

There's a lot going on in New Hampshire right now! For a complete listing of events and other important travel information, please visit our website at [www.visitnh.gov](http://www.visitnh.gov).