

If the Thanksgiving Mud Holds up a Duck, the Rest of the Year, You will Wallow in Muck. and Other Legends and Lore About Vermont Weather

Almost no other subject has inspired so much speculation and folklore as has the weather. This is probably because it is the one factor that influences all of our lives so much. Following are some examples of winter weather predictions.

To predict the length and harshness of the winters, old timers developed these standards:



The winter will be a hard one if the corn husks are thicker than usual.

The winter will be a long one if the skins on the apples are tough and thick.

The winter will be a cold one if the chickens' feathers and the rabbits' fur are thick at Thanksgiving and the hens stop laying.

You can tell the length of the storm by the size of the flakes. If they are large, the storm will soon be over. If they are small, it will last a long time.

There is an old saying that snow that comes during an old moon will last, but that one that falls during a new moon is bound to melt quickly.

If the snow on your roof melts off, the next storm will be rain. If it blows off, the next storm will be snow.

Some say that they can predict the winter weather by the coloring of the woolly bear caterpillar. If its front end is dark, the first half the winter will be hard and cold. If the rear end is darker, the second half of the winter will be more severe.



It is said that the day of the month on which the first snow falls, gives you the number of the storms you can expect during the following winter.

To predict the weather for the coming month, one need only look at the weather of the last Friday in the month preceding it.

The twelve days after Christmas indicate the weather for the upcoming year, month by month.

