The fall foliage map is based on a color code system, with brighter colors denoting more vibrant foliage. To predict peak season from the colors, use these guidelines:

- Dark Green/No change = peak is three weeks to a month away
- Light Green/Starting to Change = peak is approximately two to three weeks away
- Yellow/Approaching Best Color = peak is approximately one week away
- Orange/Best Color = foliage is peaking this week
- Red/Starting to Fade = still some nice color but won’t last more than a few more days
- Brown/Past Peak = all or nearly all color is gone

Statewide Fall Foliage Overview

Good fall foliage viewing opportunities persist throughout much of the state, especially in central and southern portions of the commonwealth. Peak colors are expected for the southeast through much of the reporting timeframe, while prime foliage conditions will only last a few more days in the central forest districts of Rothrock, Tuscarora, and Weiser. Although most leaves are down in northeastern and northwestern areas, an understated “secondary peak” exists in the oak-dominated Pennsylvania Wilds region in northcentral Pa. Today’s stormy weather could strip many leaves in areas labeled “starting to fade” and those that will peak for just a few more days.
Northwestern Region
The district forester in Cornplanter State Forest reported that recent rains have brought down most leaves, but there are still some hints of color in the district.

Northcentral Region
Loyalsock State Forest staff reported past peak foliage throughout the district. Most leaves have dropped but oaks in the Little Bear area are still offering some fall scenery.

The Tioga County service forester reports most northern hardwood trees have lost their leaves, but many oaks are showing a muted orange color, currently. The Route 6 corridor, Pa. Grand Canyon, the Asaph area, and West Rim Road are still recommended places to see some fall color in the region.

Susquehannock and Elk State Forest staff report past peak conditions with little to no color in the districts.

Northeastern Region
Pinchot State Forest staff reported past peak foliage throughout the entire area, with most leaves brown and fallen.

Delaware State Forest staff reported that most leaves have fallen but pockets of nice color remain on oaks.

West-central and Southwestern Regions
Forestry staff in Forbes State Forest reported a “wide range of fall colors” in the district. Foliage in the Laurel Highlands is past peak, but lower elevations to the west are peaking. Visitors to Laurel and Chestnut ridges should focus fall foliage viewing efforts in oak-dominated forests where colors of yellow, gold, and brown are noticeable. American beech and yellow poplar are other species providing excellent fall color this week. Chestnut Ridge is currently displaying vibrant fall colors, but this is not expected to last long. Ohiopyle and Keystone State parks should provide great opportunities for picture-taking and fall foliage viewing. In the lower elevations of Allegheny, Washington, Greene, western Fayette, and western Westmoreland counties, peak fall color is imminent. Hickories are particularly vibrant this week and provide a wide range of colors from yellow to blaze orange. The winding country roads of Greene and Washington counties provide excellent opportunities to view hickories at their best. The Pittsburgh area will see a wide range of color with maples, birches, hickories, and cherries displaying good fall color.

Clear Creek and Gallitzin State Forest staff report fading conditions with little oak color in the districts. Expected storms, rain, and cold will likely strip the remaining leaves in widespread areas.
Central and Southcentral Regions
Foliage is fading in Moshannon forest district, but there are still a few areas with nice color. The beech, maple, and hickories still have good color, but oaks are toward the end of their prime. The best places to see fall colors are across the northern part of the district.

![Bright foliage near Penfield, Moshannon State Forest. (photo by Z. Miller)](image1)

In Bald Eagle State Forest, most maples, birches, poplars, and walnuts have dropped their leaves and foliage is starting to fade. Hickories, sassafras, and some sugar maples are providing flashes of yellow.

![Colorful forest edge, Bald Eagle forest district. (photo by J. Osborne)](image2)
Foresters report excellent fall color in the Trough Creek Division of Rothrock State Forest but fading conditions from Huntingdon northeastward to Spring Mills. Today’s stormy weather and expected cold in the long-term forecast could expedite leaf drop, so peak conditions are not predicted to last much longer in the district. Hickories, oaks, and sugar maples are particularly vibrant. Red and chestnut oaks along with striped maples in the understory are providing “beautiful contrasts” of color. The Colerain overlook, Terrace Mountain at Raystown Lake, Coopers Gap, and routes 522 and 994 are recommended for scenic fall foliage viewing in the region.

*L to R: Tram Road and Bear Meadows, Rothrock State Forest (photo by R. Barb)*

*Beautiful forest edge, Broad Top City, Huntingdon County. (photo by R. Reed)*
Buchanan State Forest staff reported that forests are still at prime and oak stands have finally changed. Color is expected to quickly fade with forecasted storms and cold, however. Almost any road in the district will provide an excellent view of fall shades, currently.

![Buchanan State Forest roadside. (photo by K. Ewan)](image1)

The Michaux State Forest service forester reported fading foliage in the district. White and red oaks are “putting on a good show” still but most early changers have dropped their leaves. Vistas are recommended vantage points to view orange and yellow of the oaks.

Foresters in Weiser State Forest report hues of brilliant yellow on hickory, tulip poplar, black birch, and most oaks. Many colorful tones of orange and red are being displayed by black gum, maples, sassafras, and dogwoods. Current conditions in the area are very favorable for fall color viewing. The Roaring Creek Tract and the Haldeman Tract hang gliding area are great spots to enjoy the fall colors in the district.

![Cold Spring Road, Adams County. (photo by K. Smith)](image2)
Tuscarora State Forest staff report fading conditions in the district but some areas still showing nice color, particularly Cumberland and Perry counties.
Southeastern Region
Peak conditions persist throughout the William Penn forest district but may not last with today’s expected storms. Hickories, maples, beeches, and oaks are vibrant in widespread areas. Species showing the best color include pignut hickories and red maples, which are blaze-orange and fiery red, respectively. The best areas to view fall foliage in the district are to the south in Lancaster, Chester, Montgomery, and Delaware counties.

Vibrant beech, Lancaster County. (photo by R. Reed)