

MARCH

MONTHLY MOSAIC



Berkshire Natural
Resources Council

BIRD MIGRATION BEGINS

Early migratory birds, such as red-winged blackbirds and American robins, return to the region. Listen for their calls in wetlands and open fields. They are often the first migratory birds to arrive in March, signaling the start of spring.

EXPLORE

Visit Housatonic Flats in Great Barrington to spot returning migrants!

1



MAPLE SUGARING SEASON

Late February through early March is prime time for tapping sugar maple trees. The sap flows as daytime temperatures rise above freezing and nighttime temperatures drop below freezing.

FUN FACT

It takes about 40 gallons of sap to produce one gallon of maple syrup!

2



SKUNK CABBAGE EMERGES

Skunk cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*) is one of the earliest plants to emerge in wetlands. Its unique ability to generate heat allows it to melt snow and push through frozen ground. This process is called thermogenesis.

EXPLORE

Walk the boardwalk at Parsons Marsh in Lenox and keep an eye out for sprouting skunk cabbage!

3



4

WOOD FROGS BREEDING

Wood frogs (*Lithobates sylvaticus*) are among the first amphibians to emerge from hibernation. They gather in vernal pools to breed, filling the air with their quacking-like calls

FUN FACT

Wood frogs can survive being frozen solid during the winter thanks to special antifreeze compounds in their blood.

