

2026 Fall Foliage Map & Forecast

A Maryland leaf-peeping guide from Paradise Landscape & Hardscape

Every autumn is unique, but the season follows familiar patterns. Based on historical foliage trends, peak leaf-peeping in 2026 is expected to begin in late September in northern states and higher elevations, then gradually move south and toward the coast through October and into early November. Two things drive the timing everywhere: daylight and temperature — the further north and the higher the elevation, the earlier the colors turn.

Expected peak color across Maryland

Western Maryland — Garrett County & Catoclin Mountain

Late September – Early October

Higher elevations lead the way. Garrett County and the Allegheny Highlands typically see the earliest, boldest color of the season.

Central Maryland — Annapolis, Baltimore & the Piedmont

Mid – Late October

Rolling hills and valleys around Annapolis and Anne Arundel County typically hit their stride in mid-to-late October, with maples, oaks, and hickories creating a mix of reds, oranges, and golds.

Coastal Maryland & the Eastern Shore

Late October – Early November

Lower elevations and coastal areas hold onto color the longest, with the Chesapeake Bay region often peaking into early November.

Good to know: no forecast is 100% precise. Weather has a big effect on both timing and vibrancy — leaves need warm, sunny days and crisp (but not freezing) nights for the best show, and rainfall or drought can shift things earlier or later. Check back as we get closer to the season for the most accurate picture.

For an interactive, week-by-week map of fall color across the entire country, visit the Old Farmer's Almanac Fall Foliage Map & Forecast at almanac.com/fall-foliage-map.

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