

# Fall color show is starting

COLUMBUS – Ohio’s forests and fields continue to change color this week, with greens turning to yellow, and with rusts and golds appearing in most areas. Peak color is still one week away for most of the state.

“Most parts of the state are starting to notice the first hints of fall color with yellows and oranges being reported and spots of red in the landscape showing,” said Casey Munchel, of the ODNR Division of Forestry. “Buckeye trees are turning yellow and blackgum trees and sumac are starting to show bright red in the north along with poison ivy and Virginia creeper vines.”

Most ODNR facilities are reporting 10 to 20 percent color in the woods this week. However, Munchel noted that most of the spotty color is on stressed out trees from the wind storm this

past week. Cooler nights should speed the onset of good fall color and add more variety to the landscape in coming days.

Special seasonal campouts and events are slated for this weekend at Mt. Gilead State Park in Morrow County, Caesar Creek State Park in Warren County, Hueston Woods State Park in Preble County, Blue Rock State Park in Muskingum County, Malabar Farm State Park in Richland County, Beaver Creek State Park in Columbiana County, Van Buren State Park in Hancock County and Buck Creek in Clark County.

Residents and visitors are urged to take care with campfires and debris fires and observe the state’s outdoor burning rules.

To help Ohioans and out-of-state visitors make the most of this popular outdoor season,

weekly updates are available from the best Fall Color viewing locations across the state by calling 1-800-BUCKEYE. Users can also find Fall Color information on the Internet at ohiodnr.com and at www.discoverohio.com/autumnadventures.

Ohio’s 74 state parks, 20 state forests and 131 state nature preserves provide excellent locations to sample the fall foliage. Here are the most current reports from selected locations:

### Central Region

- Alum Creek State Park (Delaware County) Changing
- Mount Gilead State Park (Morrow County) Changing
- Blackhand Gorge State Nature Preserve (Licking County) Changing

- Deer Creek State Park (Pickaway County) Changing

### East Region

- Guilford Lake State Park (Columbiana County) Changing
- Salt Fork State Park (Guernsey County) Changing
- Blue Rock State Park (Muskingum County) Changing
- Beaver Creek State Park (Columbiana County) Changing
- Dillon State Park (Muskingum County) Changing

### Southeast Region

- Lake Hope State Park (Vinton County) Changing

- Hocking Hills State Park and State Forest (Hocking County) Changing

- Burr Oak State Park (Morgan County) Changing
- Tar Hollow State Forest (Ross County) Changing
- Lake Alma State Park (Vinton, Jackson counties) Changing
- Zaleski State Forest (Vinton County) Changing

Color condition key:  
CHANGING - Still mostly green, less than 25 percent color.

NEAR PEAK - Significant color showing - anywhere from 30 to 60 percent color.

PEAK - Peak colors - as much as 85 percent showing.



Hebron residents Jack and Jan Yocum stand atop a wheelchair ramp donated Aug. 17 to Jack, a member of the Men’s Auxiliary VFW Post 1388, by his fellow members. Yocum has been in and out of the hospital the past several months. “Now I know he can get out of the house safely on his own if he has to,” said Jan, Jack’s wife. The long metal ramp features a shallow incline, rails, and sandy paint to provide traction. Jack said his mobility was limited after the amputation of his left leg and right toes. The old wooden ramp was too steep and slick for him to operate on his own. “I would especially like to thank ‘the crew’ for their hard work, consideration, and craftsmanship,” said Yocum. He thanked Bob Schilling, Rick Vanoster, Jack Backus, Ralph Sullivan, Joe and Pete Krammer, Custom Welding, and Fisher Marina. “Our thanks and gratitude aren’t enough for what you have given back to my wife and I,” said Yocum. *Beacon photo by Scott Rawdon.*

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