

Winter Weather Lore

As the official calendar start date of winter approaches, December 22, 2011, we wanted to take this opportunity to explore some weather lore associated with winter.

First off let's discover some tell-tale signs to predict a harsh winter. If nuts are plentiful it is said that the ensuing winter will be harsh and like wise if nuts are plentiful it would only serve to say that squirrels will be busy collecting these nuts which is, also, a sign of an abrasive winter. A squirrel's activity level is not the only sign that a squirrel provides to tell us of the impending winter, if the squirrels' tail is extremely bushy it, also, means a hard cold winter.

Squirrels are not the only wildlife that are used to predict the severity of the winter months. Woolly bear caterpillars show the harshness of winter by how much of their woolly bodies are colored black vs. brown. Also, if there are a lot of sightings of black bear in the fall it is said that one should expect an extreme winter.

If animal watching isn't your thing, you could simply explore the moss and where it has chosen to grow. It is thought that more moss on the south side of the tree the harder the winter to come.

Another piece of the winter weather lore puzzle has to do with that dreaded four letter word for some, SNOW! Listed below are four sure fire weather lore ways to predict snowfall:

1. Count the number of foggy mornings in August and that will equal the number of snowfalls for the upcoming winter.
2. The first snowfall – the first traceable snow that falls and the day that it falls on denotes the number of snowfalls for the year. For example: The first traceable snowfall in 2011 occurred on Oct 29, therefore the 2011-2012 winter season should see 29 snows!
3. Take the first snowfall and count the days from that date until Christmas that number is the total number of snows that will occur for the winter season.
4. Count the number of days from the first snow fall until the new moon and that will be the predicted number of snows for the winter.

Lastly no weather lore predictions would be complete without sharing the signs for the start of spring. For instance, it is thought that a white Christmas means a green Easter. Or that when the dogwood trees are in full bloom winter is officially over and there will be no more snow. Animals get into the act when predicting the arrival of spring, as well, if the Tree Frogs sing for three nights in a row spring is here to stay.

One other item to watch for is that the first 12 days of January are said to predict the weather for the next 12 months of the year.

No matter what the weather or the season, remember we at Charles S. Snyder Inc. are here to serve all of your equipment needs. After all it's the service after the sale that matters and we've been perfecting that for over 70 years. Visit our website, www.cssnyder.com, for more information regarding our end of year specials.

Happy Holidays from our family to yours!