

FEBRUARY MONTHLY MOSAIC



Berkshire Natural
Resources Council

OWLS CALL MORE FREQUENTLY

February nights are filled with hoots from owls like the barred owl. Their calls carry farther through leafless woods and cold air.

SNOW FLEAS ARE VISIBLE

On mild winter days, tiny black specks may suddenly dot the snow's surface. These are snow fleas, a type of springtail that emerges during thaws.

ICE BEADS ON BRANCHES

During freeze-thaw cycles, melting snow refreezes on twigs and grasses, forming tiny beads and sheaths of ice that sparkle in low winter light.

MOSSES BRIGHTEN

When snow melts, mosses and liverworts appear suddenly vivid green against the brown forest floor, absorbing moisture and light during winter thaws.

EXPLORE

Take a walk at dusk at **The Boulders** in Dalton or **Clam River** in Sandisfield. Be sure to bring a source of light and let someone know where you are!

1



FUN FACT

Snow fleas contain a natural antifreeze protein that allows them to stay active in freezing temperatures.

2



EXPLORE

Along riversides and boardwalks like **Old Mill Trail** in Hinsdale and **Parsons Marsh** in Lenox and in higher elevations like **Hoosac Range** in North Adams.

3



FUN FACT

Mosses can photosynthesize at temperatures just above freezing.

4

