

JANUARY

MONTHLY MOSAIC



Berkshire Natural
Resources Council

ICE FORMS ON WETLANDS, PONDS & LAKES

Wetlands lock into shimmering sheets of ice while streams develop side shelves and delicate freeze-patterns.

EXPLORE

Parsons Marsh and **Steadman Pond** offer beautiful winter views. Ice shifts with temperature changes, so no two frozen wetlands look the same from day to day.

1



TREES CREAK AND POP

Cold snaps tighten the bark and wood fibers of trees, creating the mysterious “popping” sounds of winter forests.

FUN FACT

These sounds are caused by sap rapidly expanding and contracting—nature's own percussion section

2



SUNLIGHT QUIETLY RETURNS

Days grow noticeably longer by mid-month, and sunsets shift later each night—small but hopeful signs of the turning year.

FUN FACT

Even by January 31, we've already gained almost an hour of daylight since the solstice.

3



SPRING NESTS ARE REVEALED

With leaves off the trees, old bird nests become easy to spot. These nests tell the story of last spring's activity and offer clues about which species call the area home.

EXPLORE

Scan bare branches along the edges of meadows and wetlands at **Housatonic Flats,, Parsons Marsh**, and **Thomas & Palmer Brook**.

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Photos by Gabrielle K. Murphy