

JUNE

MONTHLY MOSAIC



Berkshire Natural
Resources Council

MOUNTAIN LAUREL IN BLOOM

Clusters of star-shaped pink or white flowers that brighten up the forest understory!

In the Berkshires, mountain laurel forms dense thickets, providing cover and nesting sites for forest birds.

FUN FACT

Mountain laurel buds are like tiny springs-when they burst open, they can fling pollen several inches to attract pollinators!

1



FIREFLIES AT DUSK

Look for tiny green-yellow flickers in fields, forests, and backyards during sunset.

Fireflies flash in species-specific patterns and some may even synchronize their glow in groups

EXPLORE

Open meadows and fields like **Thomas & Palmer Brook Reserve** in Great Barrington and **Hollow Fields** in Richmond are great firefly-watching locations.

2



TURTLE NESTING SEASON

In June, female turtles, like painted and snapping turtles, leave the water to dig nests in sunny, sandy soil along roadsides and trails.

If you see one crossing the path, leave it be! She's on a mission to lay eggs that won't hatch until late summer or early fall!

FUN FACT

Some Berkshire turtles, like the painted turtle, can live over 30 years in the wild. Their eggs have a tough start--less than 1 in 100 hatchlings make it to adulthood, due to predators like raccoons, skunks, and even ants!

3



SUMMER SOLSTICE

The summer solstice marks the longest day of the year, and in the Berkshires, it brings nearly 15 hours of daylight! Plants use this extra sunlight to power a burst of growth, and birds sing longer into the evening.

EXPLORE

Watch the sun go down and welcome summer at **Hoosac Range Reserve** in North Adams on the aptly named Sunset Rock trail.

4

