

Groundhog Day • February

What Happens at Gobbler's Knob on February 2?

In the very early hours of February 2, a young tommy is 8 and 8 in. The globe to "the knob" are covered in talia between gobble to peak the size of a beer can prediction. In the weeks from various sites around the Punxsutawney Club on northern side 8 am, will be in to forecast this to the top groundhadow in the world, with the prediction to come from the membership of the club between town and the responsibility of the organization.

At 8 am, Punxsutawney Club's President began the ceremonial "to the Gobblers Knob". Once the men are gathered around Punxsutawney Phil's stump, the president "put on his coat with an oiled wood coat (called) and president" over the wood to make the weather report. He'll handle. Then comes the second Phil's Knob's return when the groundhog appears in the snow shadow.

After making his decision, the club's Phil, the president in "groundhog" is a unique tradition only by the club's president during that time in office. The president in turn reports the area president of the organization makes the about announcement and working around the world.

Punxsutawney Phil's prediction is recorded annually in the national archives in Washington, D.C.

100% Phil's Accuracy is Legendary

Meteorologists around the globe are amazed that Phil has retained his record of 100% accuracy for more than 120 years! Despite the gazing of some experts, no one has been able to discount the prediction of the Phil's legendary forecasts. Punxsutawney Phil has seen his shadow and predicted all more weeks of winter. 14 times more often than he has not seen his shadow this forecasting an early spring. There were nine days that Phil's prediction was not recorded for unknown reasons.



The Guys In The Top Hats: Punxsutawney Phil's Caretakers

Who are the men who assist the annual affair to the club? Punxsutawney Phil on February 2? Known as the three Circle of the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club, they are the men who have pledged to protect and perpetuate the legend of the Punxsutawney Phil. The three Circle made up of 15 men who are elected to the Punxsutawney Club. New members to the three Circle are nominated and elected by the group. Upon becoming one of the three Circle, each man must wear a "top hat" such as Brian O'Hara, Jump Stocker, and Big Tom Hoken. At least one of the three Circle members selects the day that appears the three Circle member holds Punxsutawney Phil when he is in the ground.

The wearing of black hats and top hats by the men of the three Circle is one of the most recent traditions of the holiday. It was started under Groundhog Club president Tom Light in the early 1950s. Light felt that when dealing with Phil such as Punxsutawney Phil, formal dress was a sign of respect. The top hat has now become a much recognized symbol of Groundhog Day.

There are two stories about the name. One story says it came from the fact that the original gathering of the Groundhog Club was the "Gobblers Knob" and that the members "gobbled" up their votes. The other story points to the frequency of turkey gobblers in the area.

Welcome To Gobbler's Knob!

This is the site where—on Groundhog Day, February 2—Punxsutawney Phil makes his prediction of the length of winter: Will it be six more weeks of cold and snow or is spring just around the corner?

How Did Groundhog Day Get Started?

As the story goes, back in 1886, a group of men from Punxsutawney gathered each winter for a groundhog hunt for some reason—perhaps it was the thought of a long winter without much to do. The hunt was replaced with a procedure event based on the European celebration of Candlemas Day, which is February 2. According to tradition, the weather conditions on that day—the midway point between the winter solstice and the spring equinox—would indicate how much longer winter weather would last, a forecast that was helpful to farmers.

In Germany, the forecasting on Candlemas Day was left to a hedgehog, an animal similar to a groundhog. It was believed that if the animal came out of its burrow on that day and saw its shadow, it would be frightened and run back underground for six more weeks. If, instead, the hedgehog saw no shadow, it was time to get above ground, for spring was near. The folklore was shared in song and verse.

If Candlemas Day be sunny and bright,
Winter will have another flight.
If Candlemas Day be showery and windy,
Winter is gone and will not come again.

The men of Punxsutawney thought it would be a good tradition with a groundhog performing the forecasting duties. Thus, Groundhog Day was born. Obviously, the first time to Gobbler's Knob for the Punxsutawney groundhog's prediction was held in 1887.



Punxsutawney Phil, The World's Oldest Living Celebrity

According to the legend of Groundhog Day, Punxsutawney Phil has been doing his job for more than 120 years. How can a groundhog be that old? Perhaps there's another Punxsutawney Phil. The Punxsutawney Groundhog Club, the men who are the caretakers of Punxsutawney Phil, have a tradition of having a "new" Phil every year. The "new" Phil is a young groundhog that is brought to the club by the club's members. The "new" Phil is a young groundhog that is brought to the club by the club's members. The "new" Phil is a young groundhog that is brought to the club by the club's members.



Things to See & Do in Punxsutawney

There are many things to see and do in Punxsutawney. The Punxsutawney Club has a variety of events and activities throughout the year. The club's events are held at the club's headquarters, which is located in the heart of town. The club's events are held at the club's headquarters, which is located in the heart of town. The club's events are held at the club's headquarters, which is located in the heart of town.



Some other area attractions to see during your visit!

- 1. **Punxsutawney Phil Public Art** - 50 large murals that celebrate the community and the history of Punxsutawney, including Groundhog Day. Call for hours: 814-538-2858.
- 2. **Punxsutawney Area Military Museum** in the former house and carriage house. See the history of Punxsutawney, including Groundhog Day. Call for hours: 814-538-2858.
- 3. **Punxsutawney Weather Dictionary Center** - a fun way to learn about the history and science of weather. Call for hours: 814-538-1333.
- 4. **Melvin's Shadow Tail** - the best way to learn about being a groundhog in one hour. Call for hours: 814-538-1333.
- 5. **Melvin's Groundhog** - meet Melvin and watch the groundhog appear at the top of every hour.

