

Anthropology of Europe Week 4

Groundhog Day

Today's a big day in PUNXSUTAWNEY, Pennsylvania. At 7:27 this morning (ET) Punxsutawney Phil emerged from his winter's nap at a place called Gobbler's Knob and—communicating in his native language, *groundhogese*, a language understood only by the local Groundhog Club president—**Phil reported that he saw his shadow, heralding six more weeks of winter.** (In fact, he was looking for a mate.)

For the latest up-to-date coverage and reports see . . .

Did Punxsutawney Phil see his shadow? Here's the Groundhog Day 2022 reveal

-- [Penn Live Patriot News](#) (02 February 2022)

Punxsutawney Phil's official 2020 Prediction!

Groundhog Day 2022 Guide

-- [The Punxsutawney Groundhog Club, Est. 1887](#) (02 February 2022)

Groundhog Day 2022: Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow, meaning we're in for 6 more weeks of winter

-- [USA Today](#) (2 February 2022)



[Wikipedia](#)

The *groundhogese* interpreter also reported that Phil thinks we should pay more attention to Greta Thunberg.

[Greta Thunberg on FaceBook](#)

The Groundhog Day celebration is rooted in a German superstition that says if a hibernating animal casts a shadow on February 2nd, winter will last another six weeks.

If no shadow is seen, legend says, spring will come early.” Thousands show up for the event each year in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania (and other places around the country).

Others point out that the February 2nd tradition predicting the arrival of spring actually predates any groundhog link, stretching back to the

ancient Christian holiday of Candlemas. According to an old English rhyme:

“If Candlemas Day be fair and bright,
Winter will have another flight;
But if it be dark with clouds and rain,
Winter is gone, and will not come again.”

David Maxwell/European Pressphoto Agency

You can eat groundhog. . . .

[Groundhog Recipes -- Tastes Like Chicken!](#)

[Braised Groundhog Recipe -- Food Republic](#)

[A Groundhog Stew -- Forager Chef](#)

[Groundhog Day Recipes: Don't Forget To Remove The Scent Glands](#)

[How to Clean and Skin a Groundhog \(Woodchuck\)](#)

[Groundhog recipes for Groundhog revenge](#)

People of German heritage in Western Pennsylvania (“Pennsylvania Dutch”—who are actually German—celebrate with *Fersommling*, festive gatherings at which only German is spoken (people speaking English at the events must pay a modest fine).

Phil's official forecast is officially predicted on February 2nd at sunrise at Gobbler's Knob

Groundhog Day 2022 Guide

-- The Punxsutawney Groundhog Club, Est. 1887 (02 February 2022)

Punxsutawney Phil's Past predictions

How accurate are Punxsutawney Phil's Groundhog Day forecasts?

-- Live Science (02 February 2021)

In 2013 Ohio prosecutors ‘indicted’ Punxsutawney Phil over early spring forecast, seek death penalty

"In 2013, Phil issued a forecast for an early spring, but bitter cold and snow gripped the eastern U.S. into March that year. The prosecuting attorney in Butler County, Ohio went as far as to seek the death penalty for Phil for “misrepresentation of early spring” before a Pennsylvania law firm came to Phil’s defense, claiming the Ohio attorney had no jurisdiction to prosecute the Groundhog." -- The Washing Post, 02 February 2015

Punxsutawney Phil: The Groundhog Behind the Myth

-- Live Science (01 February 2010)

Groundhog Day

-- Wikipedia

Best Regards,

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