

Little by little, autumn days are coming.



BILL THORNLEY

As the last days of summer play out, the northwestern Wisconsin landscape is quietly changing. Green fields are turning golden; hints of color are showing up in the trees. And here, a lonely sandhill crane walks across a sleepy morning meadow.

Signs of change



BILL THORNLEY

The rising sun casts a golden glow across the landscape as it lights up a thick fog that has settled in. Such mornings grow more common as August days fade, letting us know that fall is not far away.

BILL THORNLEY

LEFT, ABOVE: One of the very first signs that things are starting to change in the area, ferns on the forest floor and roadside ditches are turning from green to gold. Soon they will change to brown as autumn days advance. **LEFT, BELOW:** Splashes of red are starting to show up in the leaves overhead as trees take on the colors of early autumn. A little red here, a hint of orange over there, maybe some gold elsewhere. Little by little, the leaves are signaling change. **RIGHT:** His small antlers covered in velvet, a young white-tail buck grunts as it moves near a small group of does. The little fellow may be caught up in the very early stages of the rutting season!

