

# Jeff's Arizona Adventures

## Tornado Damage



Arizona is no stranger to natural disasters. Floods, hail storms, blistering heat, and even tornados. Take a look at what a series of twisters did to the forest north of Flagstaff.

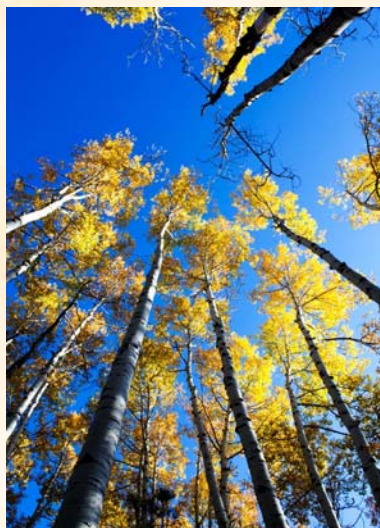
## Leaves Changing Color

Enjoy the beauty and wonder of Quaking Aspens as they change color in the Fall.

Yellows and reds fill the forest, looking like the trees had been painted by a master artist.

These colors seem even more vivid with a backdrop of snow white Aspen bark.

It's a sight not to be missed, and with these images, you never will. Sit back, relax and enjoy the vibrant colors of Fall.





## Tornado Damage

On October 6, 2010 a series of tornadoes hit Flagstaff, Arizona, and the surrounding area. You probably saw the damaged homes on the news. But did you know that the forest was also hit hard?

I came across this area that was damaged by one of the tornados, several miles past the Snow Bowl ski area.

The eight tornadoes that went through the Flagstaff area rated between EF1 (winds between 86-100 MPH) and EF3 (winds between 136-165 MPH). One of these tornadoes was on the ground for 30 miles.

Some of the damage included:

- Dozens of homes destroyed or damaged.
- 28 train cars derailed near Bellemont, west of Flagstaff.
- Interstate 40 closed due to debris from a Recreational Vehicle sales lot. 35 RVs and trailers were destroyed; a \$600,000 loss.

As you can see from these photographs, the tornados twisted

and snapped large trees with ease. The unevenness of the breaks show how savage a tornado can be. No clean break, but more of a wrenching apart of wood.

The Forest Service decided to go into those areas of the forest hit by tornados and clear out the damaged trees. So these photographs are some of the very few records of what happened in the forest on that frightening day.

These images can be used to illustrate:

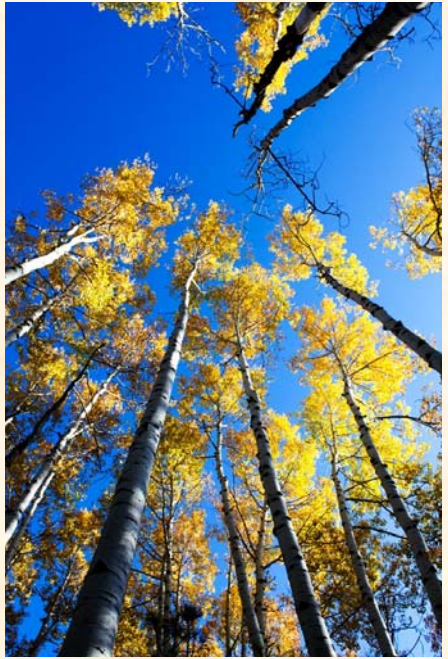
- Tornados
- Storms
- Wind
- Global Warming
- Natural disasters
- Forest damage
- Forces of nature



# Leaves Changing Color

I love photographing the changing colors in the Fall. There are some real challenges, and great rewards.

Last Fall I decided to photograph the leaves for three consecutive weekends. I felt this would give me plenty of chances to get the images I wanted, even with the two main issues I have to deal with when shooting around Flagstaff that time of year.



The first issue is the weather. Fall is always prone to storms. The other issue is wind. It usually crops up the morning when all the trees are in perfect color. In very short order, this wind can blow 95% of the leaves off of the trees. I've seen this many times.

The first weekend trip was nice. As I went up in altitude the trees started changing color. However, a storm was forming as I approached the area where I wanted to shoot. By the time I arrived at the shooting area, the sky had turned into a flat gray sheet of clouds. In between the rain, snow and sleet I did manage to get some good photographs.

On the second weekend I showed up in the same area, and the clouds were back, but there was some blue sky. Again I was able to get some nice photographs, in between the snow flurries that came and went.

The third weekend was my last chance. The leaves weren't going to last much longer, so up I went. The whole way I cursed the infamous winds that had kicked up at about 5:00 am. By 8:00 am 98% of the beautiful orange and yellow leaves were off of the trees and on the ground. At least I had some nice fluffy clouds in the sky. But it was time to switch to plan B.



I started hitting all of my secret shooting locales. I managed to find some areas where there were trees protected from the wind. There were also leaves on the

ground which lent themselves to close-ups. I also found some large boulders and fallen trees that had leaves on them, which made for some interesting images.

When shooting at the whim and will of Mother Nature, you have to be flexible, and take advantage of what she offers.

These images can be used to illustrate:

- Color
- Fall
- Leaves
- Forest
- The seasons
- Change
- Beauty



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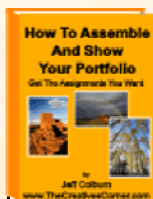
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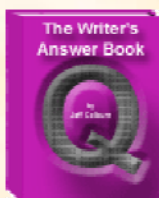
Check out Jeff's blog, **TheCreativesCorner.com**. It's full of information for people who create, and use, photographs.

# Products

Here are Jeff's four ebooks. Pick up a good read.



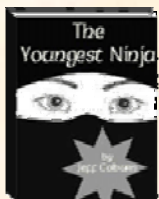
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# Jeff's Biography



The best way to describe Jeff is to say that he is a Renaissance Man, being well versed in both the arts and sciences.

He's produced photographs for publications, commercial products, fine art

and audiovisual presentations, to be used by a variety of companies and organizations, including:

- API Alarm Systems
- Arkansas Democrat Newspaper
- Art Direction and Design of Orange County
- Calendar International Magazine
- California State University Long Beach
- Kudos
- NatureScapes.net
- New State Motor Building Gallery
- Photo Zoom Magazine
- Photographer's Forum Magazine
- Security Pacific National Bank
- Shutterbug Magazine
- The Irvine Fine Arts Center
- Verde Independent Newspaper

He also completed several classes through The Newport School of Photography, taught by Al Belson.

While a member of the press he photographed many events, including:

- Marlee Matlin, Academy Award Winning actress, when she appeared at Planet Hollywood.
- Gloria Estefan, Grammy Award winning singer, when she appeared at the Hollywood Wax Museum.

While a member of Nikon Professional Services he had access to photograph several events at the 1984 Olympics.