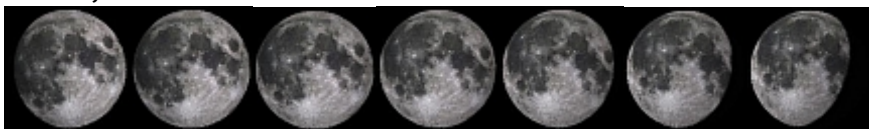


Kaw Valley Almanac

May 24 - 30, 2021

www.kawvalleyalmanac.com twitter: @KVAAlmanac

| Day | Moon rises | South | Moon sets | % Illum/Phase |
|-----------|------------|----------|-----------|---------------|
| Monday | 06:39 PM | | 04:51 AM | 96% |
| Tuesday | 07:58 PM | 12:07 AM | 05:25 AM | 99% |
| Wednesday | 09:16 PM | 01:05 AM | 06:06 AM | Full Moon |
| Thursday | 10:30 PM | 02:08 AM | 06:55 AM | 97% |
| Friday | 11:35 PM | 03:12 AM | 07:52 AM | 91% |
| Saturday | | 04:16 AM | 08:58 AM | 84% |
| Sunday | 12:29 AM | 05:16 AM | 10:07 AM | 75% |



This is the flower of false indigo, *amorpha fruticosa*, related to lead plant, blooming currently in moist prairies including the Wakarusa/Baker Wetlands south of Lawrence. Being in the legume family, this native shrub fixes nitrogen in soils and attracts a wide variety of pollinators with its lush aromatic flower—check it out this week!



Sun

Mars W, Venus, Merc NW after dusk, Jupiter, Saturn E at dawn.

| Day | Gets light | Sunrise | Sunset | Gets dark |
|-----------|------------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Monday | 04:57 AM | 06:01 AM | 08:34 PM | 09:46 PM |
| Tuesday | 04:57 AM | 06:00 AM | 08:35 PM | 09:47 PM |
| Wednesday | 04:56 AM | 06:00 AM | 08:36 PM | 09:48 PM |
| Thursday | 04:55 AM | 05:59 AM | 08:37 PM | 09:49 PM |
| Friday | 04:54 AM | 05:59 AM | 08:37 PM | 09:50 PM |
| Saturday | 04:54 AM | 05:58 AM | 08:38 PM | 09:51 PM |
| Sunday | 04:53 AM | 05:58 AM | 08:39 PM | 09:52 PM |

Live outside the Lawrence area? Get rise and setting times, moon data where you live at: <https://www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/>

§ Penstemon, prairie rose, oxeye daisy, daisy fleabane, clovers and wild indigo are spreading their blossoms across area prairies. The variety and profusion of new blossoms will only increase in coming weeks: check out the unfolding carpet of new wildflowers every week and you won't be disappointed!

§ Recent rains have begun a significant increase in fruiting mushrooms which will only increase as temperatures warm. There are over 400 mushroom species in Kansas so keep an eye out for a wide variety of these fungi in coming weeks.

§ Birds of every feather are nesting and raising young, filling the air with their wide variety of songs day and night. Most species are also decked out in their most colorful plumage of the year, so grab your camera, your binoculars and your bird ID books and apps and see how many you can spot in your neighborhood. Keep a lookout for nests: hatched egg shells on the ground can be a good clue where to look.

§ Brome, the main hay grass in Kansas, is heading out and ready to begin pollinating. Stock up on allergy medicine if you are allergic to this grass, which, along with ragweed at the end of August is the most common plant allergen for most people.

§ Skunks are bearing young as are beavers, woodchucks, rabbits, bobcats and out west: prairie dogs. Turtles are laying eggs, skinks and snakes are breeding, and chiggers are out. Lightning bugs are becoming plentiful in rural area hay fields.