

Kaw Valley Almanac

September 4 - 10, 2023

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Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum/Phase
Monday	10:28 PM	05:00 AM	12:15 PM	77%
Tuesday	11:03 PM	05:51 AM	01:25 PM	67%
Wednesday	11:44 PM	06:44 AM	02:32 PM	3rd Quarter
Thursday		07:37 AM	03:35 PM	47%
Friday	12:32 AM	08:31 AM	04:29 PM	37%
Saturday	01:26 AM	09:23 AM	05:16 PM	28%
Sunday	02:25 AM	10:14 AM	05:54 PM	20%



This perennial sunflower *Helianthus grosseserratus*, or sawtooth sunflower, is displaying its two rows of bracts, which combined are called the involucre. They are almost as spectacular as the yellow ray flowers that are beginning to emerge in some plants. The sharp tips swirling around the developing disk in the center probably protect the developing flower, or at least provide an alternative snack for a hungry insect, until blooming begins and pollinators arrive to fertilize the disk flowers and help protect it. .



Sun

Saturn rises E at dusk; Jupiter rises midnight, Venus E at dawn.

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	05:58 AM	06:52 AM	07:47 PM	08:49 PM
Tuesday	06:00 AM	06:53 AM	07:45 PM	08:48 PM
Wednesday	06:01 AM	06:54 AM	07:43 PM	08:46 PM
Thursday	06:02 AM	06:55 AM	07:42 PM	08:44 PM
Friday	06:03 AM	06:55 AM	07:40 PM	08:43 PM
Saturday	06:04 AM	06:56 AM	07:39 PM	08:41 PM
Sunday	06:05 AM	06:57 AM	07:37 PM	08:39 PM

§ The dry weather has affected the wildflowers, but some species of gayfeather are still blooming, as are fall thistles, a few asters, nightshades, gentians, bonesets, increasing numbers of goldenrods and, of course the ragweeds. Besides sawtooth sunflowers other perennial sunflowers blooming include Jerusalem artichoke, Maximilian and ashy sunflowers, to say nothing about the prolific bidens tickseed sunflower, and of course, our state sunflower, the annual sunflower. Tallgrasses are still sending up seed heads while fall cool season grasses are waiting for some rain to green up.

§ Grasshoppers seem to be singing into the evening and cicadas seem loudest right around sunset, joined by katydids, crickets, nighthawks and tree frogs, keeping the nights alive with their wild songs.

§ <https://birdcast.info/> is a fun website to visit to watch the development of bird migration as it increases this fall. For instance, according to the website, 8,200 birds migrated across Douglas County overnight on September 2nd. Most of those birds hanging out on power lines don't migrate until after dark, with migration picking up 30-45 minutes after sunset and peak numbers 2-3 hours after sunset.

§ As we approach fall equinox, it's becoming a tricky time for driving around sunset and sunrise, as our grid of roads puts the sun due east and west on the horizon. Consider rearranging your driving time and enjoy sunrise/sunset instead!