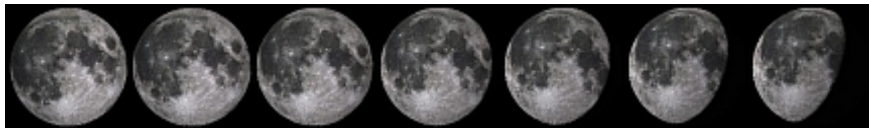


Kaw Valley Almanac

January 1 - 7, 2024

Download free .pdf of this at www.kawvalleyalmanac.com X: @KVAImanac

Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum/Phase
Monday	10:43 PM	04:34 AM	11:13 AM	72%
Tuesday	11:41 PM	05:13 AM	11:34 AM	64%
Wednesday		05:52 AM	11:54 AM	3 rd Quarter
Thursday	12:40 AM	06:32 AM	12:15 PM	45%
Friday	01:41 AM	07:14 AM	12:38 PM	35%
Saturday	02:44 AM	07:58 AM	01:05 PM	26%
Sunday	03:52 AM	08:48 AM	01:37 PM	17%



Around dusk, many flocks of blackbirds find a safe place to alight in the upper reaches of cottonwoods, oaks, elms and other tall trees. A watchful redtailed hawk is perched on a road sign nearby in the Wakarusa wetlands. You can see this dynamic play itself out across the state every year just past the winter solstice: it's a good thing to include in your life!



Sun

Jupiter SE, Saturn SW at dusk; Venus, Merc. E at dawn.

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	06:37:00 A	07:39 AM	05:09 PM	06:12 PM
Tuesday	06:37 AM	07:39 AM	05:10 PM	06:12 PM
Wednesday	06:38 AM	07:39 AM	05:11 PM	06:13 PM
Thursday	06:38 AM	07:39 AM	05:12 PM	06:14 PM
Friday	06:38 AM	07:39 AM	05:13 PM	06:15 PM
Saturday	06:38 AM	07:39 AM	05:14 PM	06:15 PM
Sunday	06:38 AM	07:39 AM	05:14 PM	06:16 PM

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

§ This should be a good week to see the many overwintering/migrating birds in your area. Around water look for geese, ducks, great blue herons and other waterfowl, with maybe an eagle or two. Along roadsides, look for different hawks and owls. Bird feeders are great places to watch juncos, chickadees, woodpeckers, bluejays, cardinals, titmouse, doves, and sparrows. Crow flocks are common, appearing anywhere.

§ In addition to identifying birds, this is a good time of year to learn your trees by their shapes, bark color and texture, bud shape and leaf scars on twigs, and leaves. Leaves? Yes, look on the ground under a tree and you can often confirm your suspicions based on dried leaves--and seeds on the ground.

§ Even though much of Kansas is still in a drought and it's one of the driest months of the year, we've had enough moisture to make the soil surface muddy. Even though most trees and plants are dormant, having lost most signs of life, now is a good time to look for green in the aptly named greenbriar vine, sedges, wild onion and garlic, mosses, plus plants like daisy and mullein in their green rosette stage.

§ So while many animals migrate to avoid the cold and lack of food, many remain, or come here from points north. To listen to Bernd Heinrich tell many stories about just how some of those animals survive, check out:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9N2MDbrEcE>