

Kaw Valley Almanac

January 15 - 21, 2024

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Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum/Phase
Monday	10:36 AM	04:30 PM	10:36 PM	23%
Tuesday	11:01 AM	05:18 PM	11:48 PM	34%
Wednesday	11:26 AM	06:06 PM		1 st Quarter
Thursday	11:53 AM	06:55 PM	12:58 AM	56%
Friday	12:23 PM	07:45 PM	02:09 AM	67%
Saturday	12:58 PM	08:38 PM	03:19 AM	76%
Sunday	01:40 PM	09:33 PM	04:27 AM	85%



Birds have been eating voraciously the sunflower seeds placed on the deck rail in the subzero temperatures. This downy woodpecker has been doing double duty: pecking on the rail to inform other woodpeckers that he has intentions to make this area his territory, in addition to snatching a seed now and then. Woodpeckers start staking out their territories this month.



Sun

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

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	06:37 AM	07:37 AM	05:23 PM	06:24 PM
Tuesday	06:37 AM	07:37 AM	05:24 PM	06:25 PM
Wednesday	06:36 AM	07:37 AM	05:25 PM	06:25 PM
Thursday	06:36 AM	07:36 AM	05:26 PM	06:26 PM
Friday	06:36 AM	07:36 AM	05:27 PM	06:27 PM
Saturday	06:35 AM	07:35 AM	05:28 PM	06:28 PM
Sunday	06:35 AM	07:35 AM	05:29 PM	06:29 PM

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

§ Eagles are plentiful right now; the Kaw River is a good place to find them—look for them waiting in a cottonwood tree, ready to grab a fish out of an ice-free stretch of river.

§ Most animals have evolved to use the length of day to trigger reproductive changes that time mating seasons so that they bear young in a season with plentiful food. Some rodents, however, use the changing day length to modify maturation, so that an infant born in spring will mature in a few weeks while one born in late autumn will take several months to mature.

§ On January 22, I will be doing a free presentation for the Lawrence Bird Alliance on Seasons and Cycles, 7pm at the Carnegie Building at 9th and Vermont in downtown Lawrence. I've been charting the local seasons since the mid-1980s and will be discussing the incredible dynamics of our local seasonal cycle in general, as well as the impacts of the herbicide spraying of the Lawrence Prairie Park Nature Center's prairie and the path ahead. www.jayhawkaudubon.org for zoon link.

§ The wetland waters along the South Lawrence Trafficway and the ponds and swales of the Baker/Wakarusa wetlands are frozen and capped in white snow, creating a silhouetting background for the tallgrasses and forbs that line the shorelines. It's a beautiful time of year to enjoy a walk in so many places in your area—take advantage of it!