

Kaw Valley Almanac

February 19 - 25, 2024

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Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum/Phase
Monday	01:19 PM	09:18 PM	04:24 AM	80%
Tuesday	02:19 PM	10:11 PM	05:14 AM	87%
Wednesday	03:21 PM	11:00 PM	05:55 AM	93%
Thursday	04:24 PM	11:46 PM	06:29 AM	97%
Friday	05:26 PM		06:57 AM	99%
Saturday	06:26 PM	12:29 AM	07:21 AM	Full Moon
Sunday	07:25 PM	01:09 AM	07:42 AM	99%



Slender mountain mint seedheads, like beebalm seedheads, keep their aroma long after they have dried up. Smash either one of these seedheads between your fingers and thumb and you'll get a burst of minty essence that is surprisingly strong. Other mid-winter smells: wild onion and sweet everlasting.



Sun

Jupiter SW at dusk; Venus low E at dawn.

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	06:10 AM	07:07 AM	06:02 PM	06:59 PM
Tuesday	06:09 AM	07:06 AM	06:03 PM	07:00 PM
Wednesday	06:08 AM	07:04 AM	06:04 PM	07:01 PM
Thursday	06:06 AM	07:03 AM	06:06 PM	07:02 PM
Friday	06:05 AM	07:02 AM	06:07 PM	07:03 PM
Saturday	06:04 AM	07:00 AM	06:08 PM	07:04 PM
Sunday	06:02 AM	06:59 AM	06:09 PM	07:05 PM

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

§ On February 13, the Loess Bluff National Wildlife Refuge estimated that there were over 1.3 MILLION snow geese there.

How long will they stay? Who knows, but it might be worth running up there at the first chance you get, or check out the mind boggling Facebook video posted on the Friends of Loess Bluffs NWR page on February 11--it's unreal!

§ Look for sap flow to return again in earnest in area maples and elms, with buds swelling and even opening in the treetops and moving down with consistently warmer days. This is the time to tap that sugar maple, elm and even walnut sap if the tree diameter is more than 10".

§ Breeding eagles have started laying eggs, and great horned owls are also nesting, having found their nesting territories earlier in January. They are reportedly the earliest nesting bird in Kansas. There are plenty of raptors around and overwintering/migratory songbirds and waterfowl are very wary of their presence lest they become a meal.

§ Deer begin shedding their antlers, this time of year, so this might be a good week to walk the woods looking for them, before rodents start chewing on them for the calcium.

§ Keep an eye out for the mature brown puffball mushroom, which will emit a smoky cloud of spores if you step on it.