

Kaw Valley Almanac

April 1 - 7, 2024

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Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum/Phase
Monday	02:33 AM	06:59 AM	11:25 AM	3rd Quarter
Tuesday	03:28 AM	07:58 AM	12:31 PM	44%
Wednesday	04:15 AM	08:56 AM	01:44 PM	33%
Thursday	04:54 AM	09:53 AM	03:00 PM	22%
Friday	05:27 AM	10:47 AM	04:17 PM	13%
Saturday	05:56 AM	11:39 AM	05:34 PM	6%
Sunday	06:23 AM	12:30 PM	06:51 PM	2%



Verbena is an early spring wildflower that has begun to bloom, and this giant swallowtail honed right in on it. Because there are not a lot of blooms right now, pick a butterfly-friendly plant like this verbena, some blooming shrubs like viburnum or a flowering wild plum or wild cherry tree, and you shouldn't have to wait too long to see a bee, butterfly or fly come and drink some nectar.



Sun

Jupiter, Mercury low west at dusk; Venus very low E at dawn.

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	06:11 AM	07:04 AM	07:45 PM	08:46 PM
Tuesday	06:09 AM	07:03 AM	07:46 PM	08:47 PM
Wednesday	06:07 AM	07:01 AM	07:47 PM	08:48 PM
Thursday	06:06 AM	06:59 AM	07:48 PM	08:49 PM
Friday	06:04 AM	06:58 AM	07:49 PM	08:51 PM
Saturday	06:03 AM	06:56 AM	07:50 PM	08:52 PM
Sunday	06:01 AM	06:55 AM	07:51 PM	08:53 PM

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

§ As everyone knows, the path of totality for the total eclipse on April 8 does not cross Kansas, but it will be well worth checking out from your back yard if the skies are clear. If you live in far northwest Kansas, >71% of the the sun will be covered by the moon, and that rises to more than 94% covered in the southeast corner of the state. Maximum eclipse occurs at around 1:50pm and it will be taking place for an hour before and after that time. Approved solar glasses are great to watch it with, but my favorite way to watch the partial phases is to look underneath trees and bushes: it works best on a tree with leaves, but the pinholes created by the twigs/leaves will create miniature crescents of what partially eclipsed moon: lots of fun!

§ With an earlier drier spring, ticks and even a chigger are possible, but see if you look in some remnant oak hickory native woodlands for early spring wildflowers. Now is the time to look there for dutchman's breeches, rue/false rue anemone, trout lily, cutleaf toothwort, spring beauty, woodland phlox and yellow/blue woodland violets. Buckeye buds should be opening as are papaws, while buckbrush and gooseberry leaves are emerging. If we get a little more rain, there might be some morels too, if the deer don't get them first.

§ Those really early elm and maple blossoms have been turning into windblown seeds, or samara. You're never too old to enjoy throwing them into the air and watch them twirl down.