

Kaw Valley Almanac

July 15 - 21, 2024

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Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum/Phase
Monday	03:36 PM	08:40 PM	01:09 AM	67%
Tuesday	04:41 PM	09:29 PM	01:37 AM	76%
Wednesday	05:48 PM	10:23 PM	02:11 AM	84%
Thursday	06:53 PM	11:21 PM	02:54 AM	91%
Friday	07:53 PM		03:47 AM	96%
Saturday	08:45 PM	12:21 AM	04:52 AM	99%
Sunday	09:27 PM	01:22 AM	06:05 AM	Full Moon



Gray coneflower, *Ratibida pinnata*, is a long blooming native perennial whose name refers to the gray cone under the brown disk florets, here being visited by a bumblebee interested in their sweet nectar. The crushed head smells like anise. In addition to the many species of bees who pollinate this pretty composite flower, keep an eye for a most unusual caterpillar, *Synchlora aerata*, the camouflage looper, who will snip off pieces of the yellow ray flowers and decorate itself with them!



Sun

Jupiter E, Mars SE, Saturn S at dawn

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	05:04 AM	06:08 AM	08:45 PM	09:58 PM
Tuesday	05:05 AM	06:09 AM	08:44 PM	09:57 PM
Wednesday	05:06 AM	06:09 AM	08:44 PM	09:56 PM
Thursday	05:07 AM	06:10 AM	08:43 PM	09:55 PM
Friday	05:08 AM	06:11 AM	08:42 PM	09:54 PM
Saturday	05:09 AM	06:12 AM	08:42 PM	09:53 PM
Sunday	05:10 AM	06:13 AM	08:41 PM	09:52 PM

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

§ For the first time in over a year, less than half of Kansas is in drought, at 46%. Compare that to this week last year, when more than 96% of the state was in some level of drought.

§ This is a great time to visit the Baker wetlands south of Lawrence. The raised walkways, observation deck and trails this week will be a great place to observe moon rise this week around sunset (check moon rise times for each day in left column). Wells Overlook park, the dam at Clinton or any other place with a good east horizon will be great alternatives to watch this with a friend, among the calls of the katydids.

§ Showy partridge pea, butterfly milkweed, tick trefoil, field mint, sensitive brier, illinois bundleflower, compassplant, black eyed susan, gray coneflower, purple prairie clover, liatris/gayfeather, wild alfalfa, whorled milkweed, slender mountain mint, moth mullein and rattlesnakemaster are a few prairie wildflowers that will greet you in area prairies this week.

§ Evenings and nights are when katydids are calling, and tree frogs as well, which can be sometimes found clinging onto windows to catch bugs drawn to lights inside after dark.

§ Wasps, stink bugs keep plant eating caterpillars in check; green lacewing larvae eat beetles; sap sucking spider mites are eaten by predator mites; lady bug larvae live on aphids, and spiders and dragonflies are great predators. Here's to the predators who keep our world from being overrun with insects!