

Kaw Valley Almanac

July 29 - August 4, 2024

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Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum/Phase
Monday	12:49 AM	08:18 AM	03:58 PM	32%
Tuesday	01:27 AM	09:14 AM	05:08 PM	23%
Wednesday	02:13 AM	10:11 AM	06:13 PM	14%
Thursday	03:08 AM	11:09 AM	07:08 PM	8%
Friday	04:09 AM	12:05 PM	07:54 PM	3%
Saturday	05:14 AM	12:58 PM	08:31 PM	1%
Sunday	06:20 AM	01:46 PM	09:01 PM	New Moon



No, this isn't an electron microscope image of the latest version of the COVID virus, it's a rattlesnakemaster cluster of seed heads, some still blooming white flowers that butterflies visit, and some finished, turning into the spiny seedhead seen all winter long. Its scientific name, *Eryngium yuccifolium* refers to its leaves it looking like a yucca, but being in the carrot family.



Sun

Jupiter E, Mars SE, Saturn S at dawn, Venus low W at dusk

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	05:19 AM	06:19 AM	08:34 PM	09:44 PM
Tuesday	05:20 AM	06:20 AM	08:33 PM	09:43 PM
Wednesday	05:21 AM	06:21 AM	08:32 PM	09:41 PM
Thursday	05:22 AM	06:22 AM	08:31 PM	09:40 PM
Friday	05:23 AM	06:23 AM	08:30 PM	09:39 PM
Saturday	05:24 AM	06:24 AM	08:29 PM	09:38 PM
Sunday	05:26 AM	06:25 AM	08:28 PM	09:36 PM

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

§ Prairie wildflowers continue much as last week, with gayfeathers, gray coneflower, stiff sunflower, black and brown eyed susan, sweet coneflower, slender mountain mint, compassplant, vervain, ironweed, showy partridge pea, St. John's wort, ashy sunflower, lead plant, and others, along with newly blooming Pitcher's/blue sage, .

§ Katydid fill the night in many parts of the state, with their song and crickets continue and will increase in numbers in response to any rain we receive. Praying mantids, grasshoppers and walking sticks are increasing and cicadas start to sing when the temperature warms above 83 degrees Fahrenheit.

§ Foxtail, an annual grass is now forming its bushy seed heads in disturbed areas. Look for its light green foliage and either look like stiff, short pipe cleaners or soft, long tops that droop over like old fashioned fireworks, depending on the species. Prairie warm season grasses are sending up their seedheads. Most hay has been baled, corn has tassled and soybeans continue to grow, so everyone and everything wants rain now!

§ Many dragonfly larvae emerge into adults in July and August, so it's the perfect time to learn to identify these mosquito eaters and their cousin damselflies or catch one emerging from its larval stage next to the water. If you want to know more about them, take a photo and submit it to iNaturalist and they will ID it and tell you what they do.