Kaw Valley Almanac

September 16 - 22, 2024

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Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum/Phase
Monday	06:56 PM		05:03 AM	97%
Tuesday	07:23 PM	12:32 AM	06:20 AM	Full Moon
Wednesday	07:50 PM	01:24 AM	07:38 AM	99%
Thursday	08:17 PM	02:16 AM	08:55 AM	96%
Friday	08:48 PM	03:08 AM	10:13 AM	90%
Saturday	09:23 PM	04:03 AM	11:31 AM	82%
Sunday	10:06 PM	05:00 AM	12:47 PM	72%



The dry fall is taking a toll on many plants and trees but it has created ideal conditions for one of the most beautiful prairie wildflowers: the gentian. They are not very tall, but their spectacular blossoms jump out from the many yellow flowers now: go find one!

Sun



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

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark		
Monday	06:11 AM	07:03 AM	07:26 PM	08:28 PM		
Tuesday	06:12 AM	07:04 AM	07:25 PM	08:26 PM		
Wednesday	06:13 AM	07:05 AM	07:23 PM	08:24 PM		
Thursday	06:14 AM	07:06 AM	07:21 PM	08:23 PM		
Friday	06:15 AM	07:07 AM	07:20 PM	08:21 PM		
Saturday	06:16 AM	07:08 AM	07:18 PM	08:20 PM		
Sunday	06:17 AM	07:09 AM	07:17 PM	08:18 PM		
Live outside the Lawrence area? Get rise and setting times, moon						
data where you live at: https://www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/						

This coming Sunday is the fall equinox, when the sun crosses the celestial equator in the sky on its way to winter solstice, its southermost path in December. We are already losing daylight, in fact we lose daylight faster now than any other time of the year, with there being 15 minutes less daylight at the end of the week compared to the beginning.

Fall is nature's planting time, when fruits and seeds and next year's buds grown with the spring and summer's solar energy are ripened and made ready to survive the drought and cold of the winter months. Stiff goldenrod has joined the other goldenrods blooming, along with the other yellows: perennial and annual sunflowers, bidens, sweet coneflower, plus boneset, ragweed, blue sage, and asters.

A few Monarch butterflies are drifting south, and dragonflies are swarming into groups that will also migrate. Check out insect galls on hackberry, oak and elm leaves and on the stems of goldenrods, and spiderwebs are still all over the place. If you're lucky, you can see spiders migrating on a north wind, being pulled along by gossamer strands in the wind. This is a good time to identify the many species of grasshoppers and crickets, and our tree frogs are pretty beautiful too: did you

know gray tree frogs can turn green?

Come join me in a free prairie walk at Prairie Park Nature

Center at 9am this Saturday!