

Kaw Valley Almanac

February 17 - 23, 2025

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Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum/Phase
Monday		04:51 AM	10:20 AM	81%
Tuesday	12:14 AM	05:32 AM	10:43 AM	73%
Wednesday	01:16 AM	06:16 AM	11:10 AM	64%
Thursday	02:18 AM	07:03 AM	11:42 AM	3rd Quarter
Friday	03:21 AM	07:53 AM	12:22 PM	46%
Saturday	04:22 AM	08:47 AM	01:12 PM	36%
Sunday	05:18 AM	09:43 AM	02:11 PM	26%



This winter has been a great cat TV channel for our cat, as she chatters away at birds through a double-paned window. Cat chattering (and chirping--which is characterized by raising note at the end) is universal and while we don't know exactly what it means, our cat is very focused on the birds while doing it. It'll be another good week to feed birds (not feed birds to cats!).



Sun

Venus W, Jupiter S, Mars SE after dusk

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	06:12 AM	07:09 AM	06:01 PM	06:58 PM
Tuesday	06:10 AM	07:07 AM	06:02 PM	06:59 PM
Wednesday	06:09 AM	07:06 AM	06:03 PM	07:00 PM
Thursday	06:08 AM	07:05 AM	06:04 PM	07:01 PM
Friday	06:07 AM	07:03 AM	06:05 PM	07:02 PM
Saturday	06:05 AM	07:02 AM	06:06 PM	07:03 PM
Sunday	06:04 AM	07:01 AM	06:07 PM	07:04 PM

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

§ Because of the cold temperatures involved, the snow-liquid ratio is predicted to be 20:1, meaning that every inch of precipitation translates to 20 inches of snow. This will be a light, powdery snow, easy to shovel, but easy to drift in the wind. When the sun comes out after the snow moves east, look for the color blue in the crevices and cuts into the snow. The scattering of light by the millions of snowflakes turns the snow light blue as the longer wavelengths are absorbed, not unlike in a lake or the color of the sky.

§ Because it is so cold and dry, combined with the dormant nature of trees this time of year, cedar/juniper lower limbs devoid of leaves are very easy to break by hand because it's so dry, making this a great time of year to "widen" hiking trails.

§ Blowing snow also means that animal tracks fill in with snow, so that you can more easily tell how recent the animal making the tracks was there as they go from fresh to disappearing altogether depending on how much time goes by.

§ Things to look for in your hikes this week in addition to animal tracks: snow reveals which trees birds perch in overnight by the droppings on the snow. Feathers strewn about mark where a fox or other animal has caught a bird. Look for juniper berries and leaves underneath cedars to see the pretty patterns they can create when they drop onto the snow. Grasses can make snow angel-like sweeps in the snow if the wind changes directions.