

Kaw Valley Almanac

January 12 - 18, 2026

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Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum/Phase
Monday	02:26 AM	07:29 AM	12:26 PM	36%
Tuesday	03:28 AM	08:15 AM	12:57 PM	27%
Wednesday	04:29 AM	09:04 AM	01:35 PM	19%
Thursday	05:28 AM	09:55 AM	02:21 PM	12%
Friday	06:21 AM	10:47 AM	03:15 PM	7%
Saturday	07:09 AM	11:40 AM	04:15 PM	3%
Sunday	07:49 AM	12:31 PM	05:19 PM	New Moon



Sycamore trees are white barked and easy to spot lining creeks where this water loving tree likes to grow. Another way to enjoy them is to see their smooth round seed balls that stay on the trees all winter long. They persist into the spring, when they can be pulled off and thrown at a wall, exploding into seeds.



Sun

Saturn SE, Jupiter E in evening

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	06:38 AM	07:38 AM	05:20 PM	06:20 PM
Tuesday	06:38 AM	07:38 AM	05:21 PM	06:21 PM
Wednesday	06:37 AM	07:38 AM	05:22 PM	06:22 PM
Thursday	06:37 AM	07:37 AM	05:23 PM	06:23 PM
Friday	06:37 AM	07:37 AM	05:24 PM	06:24 PM
Saturday	06:37 AM	07:37 AM	05:25 PM	06:25 PM
Sunday	06:36 AM	07:36 AM	05:26 PM	06:26 PM

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

§ This is a good time of year to spot tree cavities and to figure out who is using it. Woodpecker species are the most common primary tree cavity excavators, but chickadees and nuthatches have been known to excavate in very rotten trunks.

Because tree cavities are such good shelter, many other bird species will also take up residence; after all that's how folks got the idea of making bird houses. Of course it could also contain squirrels or other mammals, to say nothing of bees!

§ Because of the warm spell, followed by some rain, it's not out of the question to look at snowdrops to see if leaves are emerging from the ground and maybe even blooming. Look at the flower buds at the top of elms and maples to see if they swell up on warm and sunny days.

§ Trailcams, triggered by motion, are fun to set up along woodland and prairie trails to see who all is using that path.

§ Most years, now is the time to get tapping supplies to gather sap from area maples that are 10" in diameter or larger. There is a surprising number of other trees which have been tapped, including sycamore, black walnut, hickory, basswood, elms, and box elders. Supposedly honey locust seed pods can be gathered, soaked, blended and cooked down into an interesting syrup as well.

§ Don't forget to keep your bird feeders filled!