

Kaw Valley Almanac

Sept. 26 - Oct. 2, 2016

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Day	Moon rises	Moon south	Moon sets	% Illum.	Phase
Monday	02:55 AM	09:59 AM	04:57 PM	23%	
Tuesday	03:55 AM	10:48 AM	05:34 PM	15%	
Wednesday	04:54 AM	11:35 AM	06:08 PM	8%	
Thursday	05:53 AM	12:20 PM	06:39 PM	4%	
Friday	06:50 AM	01:03 PM	07:10 PM	1%	New Moon
Saturday	07:47 AM	01:47 PM	07:41 PM	0%	
Sunday	08:43 AM	02:30 PM	08:11 PM	1%	



This caterpillar on the flowerhead of a willow leafed sunflower mimics the yellow rayflowers. Taken at last weekend's Prairie Festival near Salina, Kansas, this is a great time to visit prairies all over the state for their fall flowers and turning grass colors.



Sun

Mars, Saturn SW, Venus, low W in evening

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	06:19 AM	07:13 AM	07:11 PM	08:13 PM
Tuesday	06:20 AM	07:14 AM	07:09 PM	08:11 PM
Wednesday	06:21 AM	07:15 AM	07:08 PM	08:10 PM
Thursday	06:22 AM	07:16 AM	07:06 PM	08:08 PM
Friday	06:23 AM	07:17 AM	07:04 PM	08:07 PM
Saturday	06:24 AM	07:18 AM	07:03 PM	08:05 PM
Sunday	06:25 AM	07:19 AM	07:01 PM	08:03 PM

Nature Notes

§ Asters are beginning to bloom in earnest with the passing of the autumnal equinox, and it's fun to count the various white, pinks and purple species whose name in Latin means "star," an appropriate description of the compound flowers that form floral constellations in area prairies until first frost. Perennial sunflowers, eupatorium, Pitcher's sage, euphorbia and gentians continue, with many goldenrods having peaked. Recent rains should make this fall a gorgeous one.

§ We've already lost over an hour of sunlight in the past 4 weeks; fall and winter skies promise gorgeous sunrises and sunsets, and fall constellations will be in good view this week with the moon waxing toward new, meaning dark skies. This would be a good week to look at the Milky Way with binoculars if you've never done that before--or even if you have!

§ Look for migratory waterfowl including a variety of seagulls and pelicans, along with the usual suspects including herons, shorebirds, teal, coots, and turkey vultures. Blackbird flocks continue to get bigger and you can still watch chimney swifts go down the courthouse chimney downtown after sunset.

§ If you're still looking for monarch butterflies, go to the Baker Wetlands and look around all the sunflowers still blooming.