

Kaw Valley Almanac

February 13 - 19, 2017

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Day	Moon rises	Moon south	Moon sets	% Illum.	Phase
Monday	08:57 PM	02:25 AM	08:47 AM	92%	
Tuesday	09:56 PM	03:11 AM	09:19 AM	85%	
Wednesday	10:53 PM	03:56 AM	09:50 AM	77%	
Thursday	11:50 PM	04:40 AM	10:21 AM	69%	
Friday		05:24 AM	10:54 AM	60%	
Saturday	12:45 AM	06:09 AM	11:29 AM	50%	3rd Quarter
Sunday	01:39 AM	06:55 AM	12:07 PM	41%	



Crocuses have begun to bloom on south facing slopes, as have snowdrops, another early spring ornamental flower. Prairie or woodland wildflowers are not likely to be blooming for a while, though I saw a spring woodland anemone blooming late last fall, so you never know.



Sun

Venus, Mars SW in evening;

Jupiter south, Saturn SE at dawn

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	06:16 AM	07:14 AM	05:57 PM	06:54 PM
Tuesday	06:15 AM	07:13 AM	05:58 PM	06:55 PM
Wednesday	06:14 AM	07:12 AM	05:59 PM	06:56 PM
Thursday	06:13 AM	07:11 AM	06:00 PM	06:57 PM
Friday	06:12 AM	07:09 AM	06:01 PM	06:58 PM
Saturday	06:10 AM	07:08 AM	06:02 PM	06:59 PM
Sunday	06:09 AM	07:07 AM	06:03 PM	07:00 PM

Nature Notes

§ This week gains 13 minutes of sunlight and some songbirds are starting to stake out their territories by singing in the morning and evening. See if you can identify them by their songs before you see them.

§ Raccoons, coyotes, muskrats and cottontail rabbits can be mating this time of year already. Their young are born later when the spring food supply is most plentiful for the mothers to be able to eat enough to feed their young.

§ With warming temperatures, don't be surprised if you see a few moths come out after dark as they are some of the first insects to take a chance. I've already seen lady bugs stirring in the warming daylight as well as green stink bugs already out looking for food.

§ In addition to bluebird and duck nesting box preparation, if you have a bat box, now is a good time to prepare for their needs as well. Many bats have died from "white nose syndrome" in the northeast, but it has spread as far west as Kansas City and Omaha, which is knocking on our doorstep. With very high mortality, this could mean an upswing in insects normally controlled by bats, including mosquitoes.

§ This is another great week for hiking to see wildlife, especially around sunrise/sunset. Grab a friend and go to your favorite/new area to explore--you won't regret it!