

# Kaw Valley Almanac

February 20 - 26, 2017

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Day	Moon rises	Moon south	Moon sets	% Illum.	Phase
Monday	02:32 AM	07:42 AM	12:49 PM	32%	
Tuesday	03:24 AM	08:30 AM	01:36 PM	23%	
Wednesday	04:13 AM	09:19 AM	02:27 PM	16%	
Thursday	04:59 AM	10:10 AM	03:11 PM	9%	
Friday	05:43 AM	11:00 AM	04:22 PM	4%	
Saturday	06:23 AM	11:51 AM	05:25 PM	1%	
Sunday	07:01 AM	12:42 PM	06:29 PM	0%	New Moon



These rue anemone leaves have made it through the dry winter so far and will likely get enough rain to make flowers in late March/early April. This is a great time to hike through oak-hickory woodlands once a week to witness the transition from almost total dormancy to a carpet of woodland flowers.



## Sun

Venus, Mars SW in evening;

Jupiter south, Saturn SE at dawn

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	06:08 AM	07:06 AM	06:04 PM	07:01 PM
Tuesday	06:07 AM	07:04 AM	06:05 PM	07:02 PM
Wednesday	06:05 AM	07:03 AM	06:06 PM	07:03 PM
Thursday	06:04 AM	07:01 AM	06:07 PM	07:04 PM
Friday	06:03 AM	07:00 AM	06:08 PM	07:05 PM
Saturday	06:02 AM	06:59 AM	06:10 PM	07:06 PM
Sunday	06:00 AM	06:57 AM	06:11 PM	07:07 PM

## Nature Notes

- § With recent warm temps and a little rain, it's not too early to start listening for the song of an emerging western chorus frog or two. Google an audio recording if you're not familiar with the mating call of this diminutive amphibian.
- § Lots of mammals are pregnant this time of year, timing births for a time of year when food and plentiful milk production is best. This includes raccoons, coyotes, muskrats, opossums, cottontails, foxes and skunks.
- § Breeding eagles have started laying eggs, and great horned owls are also nesting, having found their nesting territories earlier in January. They are reportedly the earliest nesting bird in Kansas. There are anecdotal reports that birds nest earlier in warmer years: why not start keeping track?
- § With clear night skies predicted Monday and Tuesday nights and moonless skies, this week might be a good time to see if you can see the zodiacal light, which is caused by dust between the planets in the disk of their orbits. This pillar of faint light can be seen an hour or so after sunset/before sunrise. Because of this it is sometimes called "false dawn."
- § Take a look at the tops of elms and maples to see the opening flower buds.