

Kaw Valley Almanac

February 12 - 18, 2018

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Day	Moon rises	Moon south	Moon sets	% Illum.	Phase
Monday	05:08 AM	10:09 AM	03:11 PM	12%	New Moon
Tuesday	05:52 AM	10:57 AM	04:04 PM	7%	
Wednesday	06:33 AM	11:44 AM	05:00 PM	3%	
Thursday	07:10 AM	12:31 PM	05:58 PM	0%	
Friday	07:44 AM	01:18 PM	06:57 PM	0%	
Saturday	08:17 AM	02:03 PM	07:57 PM	2%	
Sunday	08:48 AM	02:49 PM	08:58 PM	5%	



Who said that the winter has no color to it? This mosaic of lichen, moss, cedar, sticks and leaves provide a varied splash of pigments.



Sun

Saturn, Jupiter and Mars east at dawn; Venus low west just after sunset by end of the week

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	06:19 AM	07:15 AM	05:55 PM	06:51 PM
Tuesday	06:18 AM	07:14 AM	05:56 PM	06:52 PM
Wednesday	06:17 AM	07:13 AM	05:57 PM	06:54 PM
Thursday	06:15 AM	07:12 AM	05:58 PM	06:55 PM
Friday	06:14 AM	07:10 AM	05:59 PM	06:56 PM
Saturday	06:13 AM	07:09 AM	06:00 PM	06:57 PM
Sunday	06:12 AM	07:08 AM	06:01 PM	06:58 PM

Nature Notes

§ 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" trails in the woods.

§ Gusty winds and some warmer days scattered throughout the coming week will continue to dry things out as our winter drought continues. If you have a bird feeder, consider putting out some water for the visitors as well. This time of year with temps above freezing daytime and below freezing at night are the time for collecting sap from maples and elms but with dry conditions, it seems unlikely to be a very good year.

§ Morning walks provide a hard frozen surface for walking while afternoon walks are softer as the ground thaws—except on the shady north side of tree lines. When nights warm some, listen for earthworms rustling the leaves.

§ The Osage who lived in these parts called February Light of Day Returns Moon, and we gain 14 more minutes of daylight this week. Listen for increasing bird songs in the morning, woodpeckers staking out their territory by banging on dead trees and even gutters to let the other males know. Some years, red foxes are beginning to give birth later this month, and many small mammals are mating right now.