

Kaw Valley Almanac

December 10 – 16, 2018

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Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum.	Phase
Monday	10:08 AM	03:06 PM	08:06 PM	8%	1st Quarter
Tuesday	10:49 AM	03:53 PM	09:01 PM	14%	
Wednesday	11:26 AM	04:39 PM	09:57 PM	21%	
Thursday	11:58 AM	05:23 PM	10:54 PM	29%	
Friday	12:28 PM	06:07 PM	11:51 PM	38%	
Saturday	12:57 PM	06:50 PM		47%	
Sunday	01:25 PM	07:33 PM	12:49 AM	57%	



Deer hunting season is over for now, so now is a good time to take hikes. Days with temperatures above freezing and nights below freezing are predicted all week, making for a great opportunity for hiking in area woods and fields, as the ground will stay mostly frozen in the shadows and therefore easier to avoid the mud. Deer and other tracks are quickly softened in appearance from the daily freezing and thawing, so it is easy to pick out fresh tracks.



Sun

Mars SSW at dusk,
Mercury, Venus in the east before sunrise

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	06:30 AM	07:28 AM	04:58 PM	06:05 PM
Tuesday	06:31 AM	07:29 AM	04:58 PM	06:05 PM
Wednesday	06:31 AM	07:30 AM	04:59 PM	06:05 PM
Thursday	06:32 AM	07:31 AM	04:59 PM	06:05 PM
Friday	06:33 AM	07:31 AM	04:59 PM	06:05 PM
Saturday	06:33 AM	07:32 AM	04:59 PM	06:06 PM
Sunday	06:34 AM	07:33 AM	05:00 PM	06:06 PM

Nature Notes

§ Squirrels have fewer acorns to collect this year in most areas due to the drought, so they are making quick business taking apart hedge apples from the osage orange tree in order to eat the seeds. Look for the greenish apple scraps scattered about under the osage orange trees as evidence of their work.

§ Pack rats have filled their nests with seeds of many flavors as well as using anything fluffy to line their overwintering dens for the long cold spells ahead.

§ Lawrence's Christmas Bird Count takes place December 15 this year and if you can't make that, there's a CBC at Lake Perry on the 16 th or Baldwin City has one on the 17 th (contact Jayhawk Audubon for details).

§ This is winter mushroom season and we've had enough moisture to bring them up. It's also a good time to find shelf mushrooms, who orient themselves into horizontal "shelves" whether they emerge on an upright dead tree trunk on or from a log laying on the ground.

§ Friday morning, predicted clouds will hopefully clear out enough to see the peak of the Geminid meteor shower—set your alarm to get up before dawn and you may get to see up to a meteor a minute.