

# Kaw Valley Almanac

April 1 – 7, 2019

[www.kawvalleyalmanac.com](http://www.kawvalleyalmanac.com) twitter: @KValmanac

Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum/Phase
Monday	05:37 AM	10:57 AM	04:22 PM	12%
Tuesday	06:08 AM	11:40 AM	05:19 PM	7%
Wednesday	06:36 AM	12:23 PM	06:17 PM	3%
Thursday	07:03 AM	01:05 PM	07:15 PM	0%
Friday	07:31 AM	01:48 PM	08:14 PM	New Moon
Saturday	07:59 AM	02:33 PM	09:15 PM	2%
Sunday	08:29 AM	03:19 PM	10:17 PM	5%



This past weekend, the very first woodland wildflowers began to open up and this will continue for the next several weeks. In addition, as this picture shows, some early native tree buds are opening up including some hickories and in this case, the buckeye. With a somewhat delayed beginning but plenty of moisture, this could be a beautiful woodland spring!



Sun

Mars west at dusk,

Saturn, Jupiter south, Venus in the east at dawn

## Nature Notes

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	06:12 AM	07:05 AM	07:44 PM	08:46 PM
Tuesday	06:10 AM	07:04 AM	07:45 PM	08:47 PM
Wednesday	06:09 AM	07:02 AM	07:46 PM	08:48 PM
Thursday	06:07 AM	07:01 AM	07:47 PM	08:49 PM
Friday	06:05 AM	06:59 AM	07:48 PM	08:50 PM
Saturday	06:04 AM	06:58 AM	07:49 PM	08:51 PM
Sunday	06:02 AM	06:56 AM	07:50 PM	08:52 PM

§ Can we call it spring now, please? I really think so, as is evidenced by increased animal activities: spiders, moths, ladybugs, box elder beetles, are becoming active again, western chorus frogs continue to sing in wet areas, wood rats, squirrels, foxes and muskrats are bearing young around now. Migratory bats should be showing up; it's mating season for moles, pocket gophers and skunks.

§ Fire is a normal and necessary part of the prairie ecology of the area and is essential for maintaining good diversity. Expect more prairies burned in the area in coming weeks, as woody plants begin to bud out so that fires kill them while the grasses are just fine and are even stimulated by the heat.

§ Elms and maples are in full bloom; they will turn green in coming weeks not from new leaves but from the light green colored seeds called "samara" that are scattered by the wind.

§ Did you know that there is a species of snake in Kansas whose eggs hatch from 250 million year old rocks? To find out more about the "limestone snake," check out the website: [www.aprilfoolsdayonthekaw.com](http://www.aprilfoolsdayonthekaw.com)

§ This week should be an ideal week to check out the late winter/spring constellations with the naked eye, binoculars and telescope due to moonless and mostly fair weather skies.