Kaw Valley Almanac

July 22 - 28, 2019

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Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum/Phase
Monday		05:30 AM	11:28 AM	73%
Tuesday	12:05 AM	06:11 AM	12:25 PM	64%
Wednesday	12:31 AM	06:53 AM	01:24 PM	3rd Quarter
Thursday	12:58 AM	07:37 AM	02:23 PM	44%
Friday	01:29 AM	08:23 AM	03:25 PM	34%
Saturday	02:03 AM	09:12 AM	04:30 PM	25%
Sunday	02:44 AM	10:06 AM	05:35 PM	16%





This is a great time to visit the mesic prairie at Prairie Park Nature Center at 27th and Harper in Lawrence. The wheat-like grass in this photo is virginia wild rye, the white seedheads at the top of the grasses are rattlesnakemasters, and the pinkish red in front is one of the first blooming gayfeathers of the season.

Sun



Jupiter, Saturn in east after dark

Nature Notes

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	05:10 AM	06:12 AM	08:41 PM	09:53 PM
Tuesday	05:11 AM	06:13 AM	08:40 PM	09:52 PM
Wednesday	05:12 AM	06:14 AM	08:39 PM	09:51 PM
Thursday	05:13 AM	06:15 AM	08:39 PM	09:50 PM
Friday	05:14 AM	06:16 AM	08:38 PM	09:48 PM
Saturday	05:15 AM	06:17 AM	08:37 PM	09:47 PM
Sunday	05:16 AM	06:18 AM	08:36 PM	09:46 PM

Among the many prairie wildflowers currently blooming in the area this week include showy partridge pea, coreopsis, butterfly milkweed, tick trefoil, field mint, wild petunia, illinois bundleflower, compassplant, black eyed susan, gray coneflower, purple prairie clover, wild alfalfa, whorled milkweed, beebalm, ironweed, slender mountain mint and euphorbia corollata.

Recent rain will continue to light up evenings with lightning bugs and make the already active katydid, cricket and tree frogs louder than ever, while in the day, cicadas will crank it up a notch or two as well. Look for cicada killers, dragonflies, lacewings, beetles and other 6 leggeds as we approach the peak insect activity period of the year. Don't forget to wash off after being outside: chiggers and ticks are plentiful, too!

Snakes, turtles and rabbits are in the grass, some birds are having a second clutch of eggs, fawns are beginning to wander a bit in with the shade, and foxes are teaching their pups how to behave. Life is very full nowadays!

Prairie grasses are shooting up their seedheads, including big and little bluestem, Indiangrass and switchgrass. Sideoats grama grass and foxtails have already seeded out, as have many rushes and sedges. Keep on the lookout for fairy ring and other summer mushrooms shooting up thanks to recent rains.