

Kaw Valley Almanac

December 9 - 15, 2019

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Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum/Phase
Monday	03:35 PM	10:34 PM	04:40 AM	93%
Tuesday	04:09 PM	11:24 PM	05:42 AM	97%
Wednesday	04:50 PM		06:46 AM	Full Moon
Thursday	05:37 PM	12:17 AM	07:50 AM	100%
Friday	06:32 PM	01:13 AM	08:51 AM	98%
Saturday	07:35 PM	02:11 AM	09:47 AM	93%
Sunday	08:42 PM	03:09 AM	10:37 AM	86%



One of the more pleasant dried wildflowers gracing prairies this time of year is sweet everlasting, or *Pseudognaphalium obtusifolium*. This member of the aster family not only dries into attractive dried flowers; crush them between your fingers and you'll smell a sweet maple syrup-like aroma—hence its common name. This is a good year for dried wildflower collecting due to the wet year and robust growth.



Sun

Jupiter, Saturn, Venus in SW at dusk; Mercury, Mars E at dawn

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	06:30 AM	07:27 AM	04:58 PM	06:05 PM
Tuesday	06:30 AM	07:28 AM	04:58 PM	06:05 PM
Wednesday	06:31 AM	07:29 AM	04:58 PM	06:05 PM
Thursday	06:32 AM	07:30 AM	04:59 PM	06:05 PM
Friday	06:33 AM	07:30 AM	04:59 PM	06:05 PM
Saturday	06:33 AM	07:31 AM	04:59 PM	06:06 PM
Sunday	06:34 AM	07:32 AM	04:59 PM	06:06 PM

Live outside the Lawrence area? Get rise and setting times, moon data where you live at: <https://www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/>

Nature Notes

§ Winter bird flocks are busy at area bird feeders this time of year; in addition to considering joining in helping out in your local Christmas Bird Count (find details at <http://ksbirds.org/kos/2019CBC.htm>), don't miss this week's Jayhawk Audubon Society presentation at 6-8pm at the Baker Wetlands Discovery Center on what we know about why there are 2.9 billion fewer birds this year compared to 1970.

§ While you take a walk this week, keep your eyes open for things that are still green. Mosses and lichens are relatively easy to spot; bristly greenbrier vines, a sheltered wild rose, wild onion, sedges and garlic are all still green, and of course so are cedar trees. Make a farmer happy and consider cutting our only native evergreen tree for your Christmas tree or drape some berry covered boughs around for seasonal decorations.

§ Geese are slowly increasing their numbers at area reservoirs and wetlands and more eagles will continue to arrive as well.

See if you can see an eagle perched in a cottonwood tree waiting for a fish downstream of Lawrence's Bowersock dam.

§ The Geminid meteor shower peaking Fri-Sat. night/morning is washed out by the bright moon so don't anywhere near the 100 meteors/hour you'd see on a moonless night year.