

Kaw Valley Almanac

March 14 - 20, 2022

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Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum/Phase
Monday	03:44 PM	11:13 PM	05:59 AM	88%
Tuesday	04:49 PM		06:33 AM	94%
Wednesday	05:55 PM		07:03 AM	98%
Thursday	07:01 PM	12:48 AM	07:30 AM	100%
Friday	08:08 PM	01:34 AM	07:56 AM	Full Moon
Saturday	09:17 PM	02:20 AM	08:22 AM	97%
Sunday	10:27 PM	03:08 AM	08:48 AM	91%



In addition to the many, many snow geese and eagles at Loess Bluffs National Wildlife Refuge along the Missouri River, central Kansas and Nebraska are host to the annual Sandhill Crane migration, where hundreds of thousands of them can be seen at once as they migrate to their breeding grounds to the north. Here is a photo I took of a few them a few years ago: they are magnificent, as are the much rarer Whooping Cranes that accompany them--now is the time to see them!



Sun

Venus, Saturn, Mars in east before dawn

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	06:37 AM	07:33 AM	07:27 PM	08:23 PM
Tuesday	06:35 AM	07:32 AM	07:28 PM	08:24 PM
Wednesday	06:34 AM	07:30 AM	07:29 PM	08:25 PM
Thursday	06:32 AM	07:28 AM	07:30 PM	08:26 PM
Friday	06:31 AM	07:27 AM	07:31 PM	08:27 PM
Saturday	06:29 AM	07:25 AM	07:32 PM	08:28 PM
Sunday	06:31 AM	07:24 AM	07:33 PM	08:33 PM

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

§ Pre-vernal, spring woodland wildflower plants have emerged and it wouldn't be too surprising to see the first blooms of the year with the warm weather predicted this week. Go to your nearest oak hickory native woodlands to find out for yourself.

§ With snow melt progressing quickly in areas that got some, expect the return of cedar pollen, as well as look to the tops of maples and elms to see them blooming. The tree blossoms will transform into elm samara, those round miniature flying saucer seeds, and maple samara, which twirl around like a little helicopter, in several weeks' time.

§ This week keep an ear out for the call of Western chorus frogs, and around sunset, listen for the distinctive call of the American woodcock, a peculiar bird whose distinctive call is a sure sign that early spring has arrived. The spring equinox is officially this coming Sunday, and we continue to gain sunlight: an additional 15 minutes of more sunlight in just this week.

§ Some edible wild plants are emerging including stinging nettle, a very nutritious plant after being steamed. Found in rich soils, it has stinging hairs that require you to wear gloves when harvesting, but steaming makes them lose their sting.

§ With spring rain comes salamander migration, which you can see on a rainy night as they cross the roads with adjacent wetlands. Help them across if you watch the traffic yourself.