

Kaw Valley Almanac

June 1 - 7, 2026

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Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum/Phase
Monday	10:24 PM	02:00 AM	06:28 AM	99%
Tuesday	11:09 PM	02:52 AM	07:21 AM	97%
Wednesday	11:47 PM	03:43 AM	08:19 AM	93%
Thursday		04:31 AM	09:21 AM	88%
Friday	12:19 AM	05:18 AM	10:24 AM	81%
Saturday	12:47 AM	06:03 AM	11:28 AM	72%
Sunday	01:12 AM	06:47 AM	12:31 PM	63%



Milkweeds are currently blooming including common, green, whorled, Mead's, butterfly and wavy-leafed. But this means much more to other species than us, such as this Monarch butterfly caterpillar, who is eating common milkweed leaves that contain toxic cardiac glycosides that don't affect Monarchs but is poison to birds, butterflies' most common predator. Viceroy butterflies look very much like Monarchs, and for a long time it was thought this mimicry afforded them protection, but it seems both species are toxic to birds!



Sun

Venus lower, Jupiter higher west after dusk, Saturn E at dawn

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	04:52 AM	05:57 AM	08:40 PM	09:53 PM
Tuesday	04:52 AM	05:56 AM	08:41 PM	09:54 PM
Wednesday	04:51 AM	05:56 AM	08:42 PM	09:55 PM
Thursday	04:51 AM	05:56 AM	08:42 PM	09:55 PM
Friday	04:50 AM	05:55 AM	08:43 PM	09:56 PM
Saturday	04:50 AM	05:55 AM	08:44 PM	09:57 PM
Sunday	04:49 AM	05:55 AM	08:44 PM	09:58 PM

Your exact times: <https://www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/>

§ Brome and fescue are pollinating, causing grief to pollen allergy sufferers, while the invasive plants crown vetch and Canadian musk thistle are also blooming--great time to pull or dig them out. The recent rains make it easy to pull weeds, and also invasive young honeysuckle plants out by hand.

§ June is busting out all over with signs of life all around. Watch out for turtles crossing the road; snakes are plentiful, bird nests are full and fledging, lots of young mammals and their tired parents to be found too. Operation Wildlife takes found wildlife but unless you're sure they've been abandoned, leave them for their parents to find them. Questions? Check out <http://www.owl-online.org/>

§ Pale blue woodland phlox flowers have graced April and May woodlands, while the much brighter fuchsia colored prairie phlox can be now found in native grasslands in June to grab the attention of bees and other pollinators in the rapidly growing prairie grasses. It joins the growing pageant of oxeye daisy, daisy fleabane, echinacea, prairie rose, wild indigo, penstemon, yarrow, yucca, spiderwort, & other grassland wildflowers.

§ Hackberry butterfly numbers seem to be way down this year, perhaps affected by the freezes of April. Elsewhere, water striders, spittle bugs and lightning bugs abound while June bugs and moths beat against windows after dark,