

# Kaw Valley Almanac

October 2 - 8, 2017

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## Sun

Venus east at dawn;  
Saturn low SW after dusk

Day	Moon rises	Moon south	Moon sets	% Illum.	Phase
Monday	05:36 PM	11:11 PM	03:51 AM	90%	
Tuesday	06:11 PM		04:52 AM	95%	
Wednesday	06:45 PM		05:56 AM	99%	
Thursday	07:19 PM	12:49 AM	07:02 AM	100%	Full Moon
Friday	07:55 PM	01:40 AM	08:09 AM	99%	
Saturday	08:33 PM	02:32 AM	09:18 AM	95%	
Sunday	09:16 PM	03:26 AM	10:27 AM	88%	



This eastern arboreal orb weaver spider waits in the center of her web, the worse for the wear in the morning after a night of insects running into the web. According to Hank Guarisco's *Pocket Guide to Common Kansas Spiders*, this common spider eats large insects such as moths, cicadas and katydids and is itself prey for mud dauber wasps.

## Nature Notes

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	06:26 AM	07:18 AM	07:02 PM	08:02 PM
Tuesday	06:27 AM	07:19 AM	07:00 PM	08:01 PM
Wednesday	06:28 AM	07:20 AM	06:58 PM	07:59 PM
Thursday	06:29 AM	07:21 AM	06:57 PM	07:58 PM
Friday	06:30 AM	07:22 AM	06:55 PM	07:56 PM
Saturday	06:31 AM	07:23 AM	06:54 PM	07:55 PM
Sunday	06:32 AM	07:24 AM	06:52 PM	07:53 PM

§ Asters are still going strong, goldenrods are peaking, most sunflowers and Pitcher's sage are past their peak, and most prairie grass seed is collectible. Walnuts and acorns are dropping to the ground, locust pods are filled out, grapes are ripe and osage oranges are dropping or growing larger. This is nature's peaking season, as seeds are finding their way to the ground before the leaves start falling to cover them up.

§ Additional seed collecting these days include rabbitsfoot lespedeza, illinois bundleflower, showy partridge pea, milkweeds, slender mountain mint, beebalm, yarrow and oxeye daisy. After first frost, sunflowers will be ready to collect.

§ Fall bird migration is in full swing with many species of songbirds passing through, while seagulls leave Clinton and other area reservoirs in the morning, returning after sunset.

Ducks and redwinged blackbirds abound.

§ Perfect walking conditions make this the perfect time to grab a friend or pet and take a walk at Clinton, up north on the Fitch Natural History Preserve trails, along the Kaw Levee, at Prairie Park, at Wells Overlook, at Douglas County State Lake, at the Baker Wetlands Discovery Center, or even around your neighborhood. Carpe diem!