

# Kaw Valley Almanac

June 18 – 24 , 2018

[www.kawvalleyalmanac.com](http://www.kawvalleyalmanac.com) twitter: @KVAAlmanac

Day	Moon rises	Moon south	Moon sets	% Illum.	Phase
Monday	11:23 AM	06:17 PM	12:24 AM	26%	1st Quarter
Tuesday	12:31 PM	07:08 PM	01:02 AM	36%	
Wednesday	01:36 PM	07:56 PM	01:37 AM	47%	
Thursday	02:40 PM	08:43 PM	02:08 AM	58%	
Friday	03:42 PM	09:29 PM	02:39 AM	68%	
Saturday	04:42 PM	10:15 PM	03:10 AM	78%	
Sunday	05:42 PM	11:02 PM	03:43 AM	85%	



Leadplant, a native nitrogen-fixing prairie legume, is currently blooming, joining newly emerging flowers on beebalm, slender mountain mint, gray coneflower, coreopsis and white prairie clover plants. Sensitivebrier, echinacea, New Jersey tea, butterfly milkweed, deptford pink and wild white indigo continue to bloom—it's the perfect time to visit prairies.



Sun

Saturn, Jupiter SE at dusk,  
Mars rises in E before midnight;  
Venus, west just after sunset

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	04:48 AM	05:54 AM	08:49 PM	10:04 PM
Tuesday	04:48 AM	05:55 AM	08:49 PM	10:04 PM
Wednesday	04:48 AM	05:55 AM	08:49 PM	10:05 PM
Thursday	04:48 AM	05:55 AM	08:50 PM	10:05 PM
Friday	04:48 AM	05:55 AM	08:50 PM	10:05 PM
Saturday	04:49 AM	05:55 AM	08:50 PM	10:05 PM
Sunday	04:49 AM	05:56 AM	08:50 PM	10:05 PM

## Nature Notes

§ Grasses newly blooming include timothy and eastern gamagrass, while bluegrass, fescue, orchardgrass and brome are ripe, which is why area farmers are putting up hay right now.

Warm season prairie grasses will start shooting up their seedheads in July and August, reaching taller than a full grown person, tho the invasive Johnsongrass is already there.

§ Elderberry is still mostly covered with white flowers, while dogwoods are growing berries: now green, eventually turning white when ripe. It's still not too late to pick some ripe mulberries, raspberries and blackberries. Sumac is growing its seedhead, with edible sweet-tart-tasting seeds when they turn red while poison hemlock blooms white now.

§ Due to the dry weather, walnuts are shedding some of their undeveloped nuts, cottonwoods and some other species are losing some leaves. We have a pretty good chance for rain this week to help drought stressed plants AND animals.

§ This week is summer solstice, which nature celebrates here with tree frogs, deer growing felt-covered antlers, dragonflies, eating mosquitoes, roly-poy bugs, nighthawks and heat lightning. Lightning bugs still flash at night and cicadas have started to drone if it's hot enough.

§ It's not too early to start watching Mars, which is already bright but will get considerably brighter by opposition July 27.