

# Kaw Valley Almanac

February 15 - 21, 2021

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

Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum/Phase
Monday	09:27 AM	03:39 PM	10:00 PM	16%
Tuesday	09:51 AM	04:20 PM	10:58 PM	24%
Wednesday	10:16 AM	05:02 PM	11:56 PM	33%
Thursday	10:42 AM	05:44 PM		42%
Friday	11:12 AM	06:29 PM	12:55 AM	1st Quarter
Saturday	11:47 AM	07:17 PM	01:55 AM	61%
Sunday	12:28 PM	08:08 PM	02:54 AM	70%



These deer were curious about the bird seed in the backyard. Extremely cold weather has a way of concentrating wildlife in their increasingly singular pursuit of food. Helping them through this bottleneck won't make them more dependent on humans once conditions improve.



Mars southwest after dusk

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	06:14 AM	07:11 AM	05:59 PM	06:56 PM
Tuesday	06:13 AM	07:10 AM	06:00 PM	06:57 PM
Wednesday	06:12 AM	07:09 AM	06:01 PM	06:58 PM
Thursday	06:10 AM	07:07 AM	06:02 PM	06:59 PM
Friday	06:09 AM	07:06 AM	06:03 PM	07:00 PM
Saturday	06:08 AM	07:05 AM	06:04 PM	07:01 PM
Sunday	06:07 AM	07:03 AM	06:05 PM	07:02 PM

Live outside the Lawrence area? Get rise and setting times, moon

data where you live at: <https://www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/>

§ It is a good thing that we have snow on the ground when it gets this cold: it insulates the ground, preventing it from freezing as deeply as it would if the ground were bare, which can be important for the survival of some small plants, some rodents and insects/invertebrates who overwinter in the leaf litter or burrow into the ground. On the other hand, songbirds and squirrels have a harder time finding food, which is why it's a great idea to put out bird seed.

§ Will these cold days lower the population of chiggers and ticks? Alas, there is no compelling research that tells us this.

We can always hope....

§ Why does cold weather make drier, more powdery snow? Because the colder air cannot hold as much moisture, resulting in small, singular snowflakes or flat crystals instead of larger clumps of snowflakes that more humid air can create.

§ Most migratory waterfowl have headed further south because they need open water to stay safer from predators. As a result, many raptors have also headed south. In Lawrence and any other place with a dam that has open water below it, you may find eagles and other fishing birds clustered there in order to find alternative food to ducks and geese. The frigid temperatures causes steam to form from the humid air above the waterfall for the same reason you can see your breath.