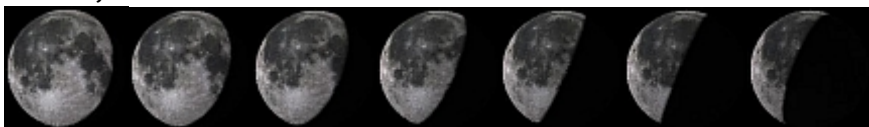


# Kaw Valley Almanac

July 26 - August 1, 2021

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

Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum/Phase
Monday	10:45 PM	03:30 AM	08:54 AM	90%
Tuesday	11:12 PM	04:18 AM	10:00 AM	83%
Wednesday	11:36 PM	05:03 AM	11:04 AM	75%
Thursday		05:46 AM	12:05 PM	66%
Friday	12:00 AM	06:27 AM	01:04 PM	56%
Saturday	12:24 AM	07:09 AM	02:04 PM	3rd Quarter
Sunday	12:50 AM	07:52 AM	03:03 PM	38%



Now is the time to enjoy the purple wildflower called gayfeather or blazing star. This particular species, *Liatris spicata*, is one of several native to Kansas and is a favorite stopping point for many butterflies, bees, skippers, moths and even hummingbirds. It's easy to grow, so consider going to your favorite local nursery to get some. Its blossom is opposite of many flowering stalks, with the new blossoms opening BELOW the flowers that are finishing up. Other purple wildflowers also blooming now include ironweed, wild petunia, American bellflower (in shade), prairie gentian, chickory, vervain and verbena.



## Sun

Venus sets WNW at dusk, Jupiter, Saturn rise in SE.

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	05:15 AM	06:17 AM	08:37 PM	09:48 PM
Tuesday	05:16 AM	06:17 AM	08:36 PM	09:46 PM
Wednesday	05:17 AM	06:18 AM	08:35 PM	09:45 PM
Thursday	05:19 AM	06:19 AM	08:34 PM	09:44 PM
Friday	05:20 AM	06:20 AM	08:33 PM	09:43 PM
Saturday	05:21 AM	06:21 AM	08:32 PM	09:42 PM
Sunday	05:22 AM	06:22 AM	08:31 PM	09:40 PM

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

§ As we approach August, more and more yellow flowers are still/beginning to bloom, including gray coneflower, stiff or ashy or hairy sunflowers, black and brown eyed susan, compassplant, rosinweed, St. John's wort, bidens and goldenrods will soon be joining them, among many other perennial sunflowers.

§ If you were lucky enough to get some rain, note how much louder katydids sing, lightningbugs flash and crickets chirp after dark. Several species of cicadas are droning in the daytime heat and look for more and more insects as they reach peak numbers next month, with increasing numbers of spiderweb orbs ready to harvest the bounty.

§ Prairie grasses are beginning to shoot up their seedheads, including big and little bluestem, Indiangrass and switchgrass. Sideoats grama grass and foxtails have already seeded out, as have many rushes and sedges. If you got some rain, look for another flush of mushroom species to emerge, including arcs of fairy ring mushrooms lined up in semi-or entire circles.

§ Many dragonfly larvae emerge into adults in July and August, so it's the perfect time to learn to identify these mosquito eaters and their cousin damselflies. If you want to know more about them, take a photo and submit it to iNaturalist and they will ID it and tell you what they do.