

Kaw Valley Almanac

December 6 - 12, 2021

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Day	Moon rises	South	Moon sets	% Illum/Phase
Monday	10:12 AM	02:50 PM	07:31 PM	10%
Tuesday	11:05 AM	03:52 PM	08:44 PM	18%
Wednesday	11:48 AM	04:49 PM	09:56 PM	27%
Thursday	12:22 PM	05:40 PM	11:05 PM	38%
Friday	12:51 PM	06:27 PM		1st Quarter
Saturday	01:16 PM	07:11 PM	12:11 AM	59%
Sunday	01:40 PM	07:52 PM	01:14 AM	68%



This heron is hanging out on a cottonwood branch at the Baker Wetlands near the Wakarusa River in the fading twilight. The sun sets at 4:59pm all this week, the earliest sunsets of the year, while the latest sunrises, 7:39am, take place at the end of the month, with earlier sunrises beginning on Jan. 5th, 2022.



Sun

After dusk, Venus sets WSW, Jupiter and Saturn in SSW.

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	06:28 AM	07:25 AM	04:58 PM	06:05 PM
Tuesday	06:28 AM	07:26 AM	04:59 PM	06:05 PM
Wednesday	06:29 AM	07:27 AM	04:59 PM	06:05 PM
Thursday	06:30 AM	07:27 AM	04:59 PM	06:05 PM
Friday	06:31 AM	07:28 AM	04:59 PM	06:05 PM
Saturday	06:31 AM	07:29 AM	04:59 PM	06:05 PM
Sunday	06:32 AM	07:30 AM	04:59 PM	06:06 PM

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

§ The original Citizen Science project was probably the Christmas Bird Count, which started in 1900 and is alive and well in the active birding community across Kansas. Taking place in many counties this December and early January, consider joining a group near you, or find out details on when and where they are at <https://ksbirds.org/kos/2021CBC.htm>

§ As it gets colder, chickadees, cardinals, bluejays, juncos, nuthatches, titmouse all hang together in winter flocks and hang out at the bird feeder this time of year. You can participate in other "watches," including the Great Backyard Bird Count and Project Feeder Watch get details here: <https://www.jayhawkadubon.org/bird-counts> --or just enjoy the antics of the birds that visit your feeder this winter!

§ Cedar (actually juniper) boughs full of blue berries are easily harvested as a fragrant and popular indoor decoration to festoon a mantle or window sill. The blue berries are a favored food of many an overwintering bird, too. Bittersweet is ripe for harvesting and a vine to make a good wreath is the wild grape vine. Dried grasses and forbs make for nice decorations, too.

§ Another good hiking week awaits you: keep your eyes open for things that are still green. Mosses and lichens are relatively easy to spot; bristly greenbrier vines, a sheltered wild rose, wild onion, sedges and garlic are all good candidates as well as rosettes of mullein, thistle and daisy.