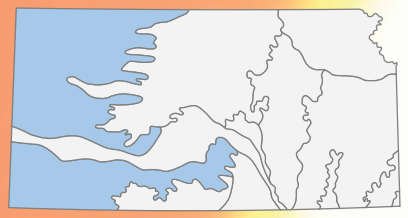

2027
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Online Preview



High Plains

JANUARY

Above: *Big Bluestem by Bob Gress*

Wintering sparrows arrive from northern breeding areas and spend winter feeding on seeds in grasslands and fields. Prairie grasses, such as Big Bluestem, retain their seed heads and provide food and shelter for sparrows during the winter months. A large portion of Richardson's Cackling Geese spend the winter in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. This species has a rounded head, shorter neck, and smaller bill than a Canada Goose and is only slightly larger than a Mallard.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 *New Years Day*	2
3	4	5	6	7 ●	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 ◐	16
17	18 *Martin Luther King Jr. Day*	19	20	21	22 ○	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 ◑	30
31	FEBRUARY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	NOTES:				



Canada Goose by Eric Dyck

Online Preview



online preview

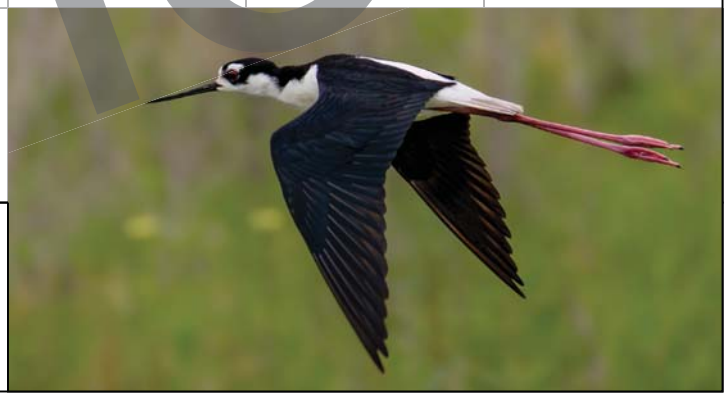
FEBRUARY

***Above:** Jackrabbit by Chad Remley*

Early northbound migration begins to appear with Sandhill Crane numbers increasing. The species has been found recently on winter Christmas Bird Counts in small numbers, with most individuals further south. Birds will stage in important stopover locations with millions of birds stopping through central Nebraska and the Platte river at the end of March. Spring is still months away yet this is the peak season for Bald Eagle nesting as pairs work on their massive nests. Woodchucks emerge roughly half the size they were going into hibernation.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	● 6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
◐ 14 *Valentine's Day*	15 *President's Day*	16	17	18	19	○ 20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
◑ 28	MARCH S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31					

NOTES:



Black-necked Stilt by Marc Mackey

Online Preview



Online Preview

MARCH

Above: *Earless Lizard by Brady Koch*

Greater and Lesser Prairie-Chickens start their dramatic springtime mating rituals. Males gather and perform courtship dances at display sites called leks. They stomp, spread their tails, and inflate colorful air sacs while making booming sounds.

The Kansas Lek Treks Prairie-Chicken Festival is an annual event hosted by Audubon of Kansas in Hays in early April to celebrate these species. The event offers Prairie-Chicken viewing, field trips, and other evening programs and registration often fills quickly.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	● 8	9	10	11	12	13
14	◐ 15	16	17 *St. Patrick's Day*	18	19	20
21	○ 22	23	24	25	26	27
28 *Easter*	◑ 29	30	31			

NOTES:

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



American Badger by Bob Gress

Online Preview



Online
Preview

APRIL

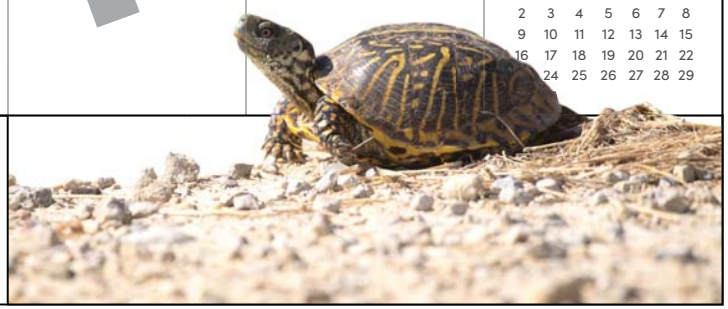
Above: *Red Hills Panoramic by Pete Janzen*

Many plants begin to flower. Spring ephemerals rapidly grow, bloom, and set seed before the tree canopy fully blocks the sunlight in eastern Kansas. Bloodroot, Dutchman's Breeches, False Rue Anemone, Spring Beauty, Trilium, and Trout Lily are among the many plants growing low to the ground. In more open spaces outside of the forest floor, the pinkish-purple flowers of Henbit can cover entire fields. Vibrant pink blooms of Eastern Redbud blooms cover the entire tree.

Hummingbird and Oriole feeders should be put up the end of the second week of April.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6 ●	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 ◐	14	15 *Tax Day*	16	17
18	19	20 ○	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 ◑	29	30	

NOTES:



Ornate Box Turtle by Chad Remley

MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	29	

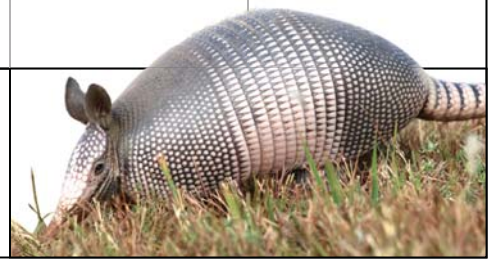
Online Preview


Wellington-McPherson Lowlands

MAY

Above: *Catchfly Prairie Gentian by Corey Entriken*

White-tailed Deer and Pronghorn fawns begin arriving at the end of the month. Many songbirds migrate through the north at the beginning of the month and by the end of the month most of the remaining individuals are nesting. Adult fireflies become increasingly visible on warm evenings as they use flashing light signals to communicate. Prairie flowers begin to bloom with Purple Poppy Mallow, Blue Wild Indigo, and Large Beardtongue offering hues of purple among the other native flowers that provide nectar and pollen for insects.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5 *Cinco de Mayo*	6	7	8
9 *Mother's Day*	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 *Memorial Day*	JUNE S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	**NOTES:**			

Nine-banded Armadillo by Corey Entriken

Online Preview



online preview

JUNE

Above: Chase State Fishing Lake by Eric Dyck

The season of growth is present with young birds leaving the nests, Mule Deer fawns arriving, and Monarch caterpillars present on milkweeds. Eastern Bluebird families are unusually cooperative and young birds from early season broods often stick around to help feed and protect the next clutch of chicks. By the end of the summer season, what started as two adult bluebirds can turn into a large flock of siblings from two or three broods.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	● 4	5
6	7	8	9	10	◐ 11	12
13	14 *Flag Day*	15	16	17	○ 18	19 *Juneteenth*
20 *Father's Day*	21	22	23	24	25	26
◑ 27	28	29	30			

NOTES:

JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



Common Watersnake by Brady Koch

Online Preview



Online Preview

Glaciated Region

JULY

Above: *Morning at Perry Lake by Emerson Harman*

Summer abundance shows a turnover among the species. Young bats start to take flight and the warm summer temperatures and vegetation growth support grasshopper abundance.

The Sunflower State namesake begins to bloom, and the various species of sunflowers will be colorful through the rest of the summer.

The first hints of fall show up with early southbound shorebirds. Southbound hummingbird migration begins in earnest at the end of the month, keep the hummingbird feeders up and be on the lookout for species from the west.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	● 3
4 *Independence Day*	5	6	7	8	9	◐ 10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
○ 18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	◑ 26	27	28	29	30	31

NOTES:



Dickcissel by Emerson Harman

Online Preview



Osage Cuestas

Online Preview

AUGUST

Above: *Daisies by Scott Laurent*

Southbound Blue-winged Teal begin arriving and join large number of southbound shorebirds. *Liatris* (or gayfeather) species produce purple flower spikes that attract butterflies and other pollinators. Snake eggs hatch and live-bearing species give birth around the end of the month. Pregnant females often seek out warm, open, or rocky basking areas to regulate their body and embryo temperatures before moving to cool, moist cover to give birth. Newborn pit vipers are venomous right away.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	● 2	3	4	5	6	7
8	◐ 9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	○ 17	18	19	20	21
22	23	◑ 24	25	26	27	28
29	30	● 31				

NOTES:

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



Zebra Swallowtail by Bob Gress

Online Preview



Online Preview

SEPTEMBER

Above: *Monarch on Thistle by Joy Brannon*

Southbound migration is in full swing. Many songbirds are traveling through the state from further north and nesting species head further south. Kansas bats leave their summer roosts. *Asters* (in the sunflower family) offer small colorful blooms and nectar for insects. Monarchs travel south through Kansas toward their wintering grounds in Mexico and education and citizen-science tagging events are often offered the end of the month. Thousands of young adult male Texas Brown Tarantulas crawl out of their hiding spots in southeastern Colorado and southwest Kansas to go searching for mates.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6 *Labor Day*	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

NOTES:

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



Jumping Spider by Brady Koch

Online preview



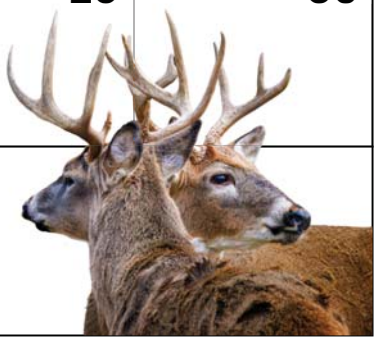
Online Preview

OCTOBER

Above: *Sweet Gum by Cordy Wesonig*

The cool mornings that we as humans consider fall coincides with the forests and grasslands transitioning into rich autumn colors. A drive along the Flint Hills National Scenic Byway or the Gypsum Hills Scenic Byway will showcase golden grasses, a few blushing buttes, and even a handful of changing canopies along the stream crossings. With public sunflower fields for viewing and photography, the fall season begs you to put on a flannel and boots to explore the many hiking trails throughout the state, and to notice the peak diversity of mushrooms that occur as moisture rises again in cooler temperatures.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	◐ 7	8	9
10	11 *Indigenous Peoples Day*	12	13	14	○ 15	16
17	18	19	20	21	◑ 22	23
24	25	26	27	28	● 29	30
31 *Halloween*	NOVEMBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	NOTES:				



White-tailed Deer by Brady Koch

Online Preview



Online Preview

NOVEMBER

Above: *Photo by Cordy Wesonig*

Large number of Sandhill Cranes travel through central Kansas. Among them, individuals of the Aransas-Wood Buffalo migratory population of Whooping Cranes are often spotted at the beginning of the month. With less than 600 individuals making the migration annually, these large white birds with red on the top of their head are the rarest of cranes worldwide. Audubon of Kansas manages the Kansas Crane Festival to observer the autumn migration along the central flyway and Quivira National Wildlife Refuge. The festival offers workshops, guided van tours, and other presentations in early November.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 *Election Day*	3	4	5	◐ 6
7	8	9	10	11 *Veterans Day*	12	○ 13
14	15	16	17	18	19	◑ 20
21	22	23	24	25 *Thanksgiving*	26 *Black Friday*	● 27
28	29	30	DECEMBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			

NOTES:



Cope's Gray Treefrog by Bob Gress

Online Preview


Online Preview

DECEMBER

Above: *Hooded Merganser by Chad Remley*

Many animals need to conserve energy over the winter months. Some insects will overwinter in pupal cases awaiting warmer weather. Frogs and toads survive winter by entering a state of dormancy called brumation which slows their metabolism, heart rate, and breathing. Many perennial plants survive winter underground through their roots. Yet the cycle is already beginning again as Great Horned Owls, Bald Eagles, and Raccoons start to pair up and get ready for the young early next year.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	◐ 6	7	8	9	10	11
12	○ 13	14	15	16	17	18
19	◑ 20	21	22	23	24 *Christmas Eve*	25 *Christmas*
26	● 27	28	29	30	31 *New Year's Eve*	

NOTES:



Rough-legged Hawk by Emerson Harman

Online Preview



We invite you to look into the many opportunities to enjoy nature across Kansas. There are many field trips and events sponsored by Kansas Ornithological Society, Audubon of Kansas, and local Audubon Chapters to better understand and appreciate birds. The Kansas Herpetological Society and the Kansas Native Plant Society offer field trips to find critters and host events to encourage awareness and appreciation of native plants of Kansas. Events and properties of Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks and Nature Conservancy of Kansas allow you to enjoy and join in the conservation of lands and waters on which all life depends.

Front Cover: *Lone Butte by Pete Janzen*

Online Preview