



For Northeast Kansas
as of 10:00 p.m. CST
Thursday, February 24, 2011
(UPDATES)

National Weather Service Current Weather Forecast

Northeast Kansas, including Topeka/Lawrence Metro Area

Tonight: Snow, mainly before midnight. Low around 20. Blustery, with a north wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. Total nighttime snow accumulation of 3 to 5 inches possible.

Friday: Cloudy, with a high near 31. Northeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday Night: A slight chance of snow and freezing drizzle. Cloudy, with a low around 22. Northeast wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

A WINTER STORM WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 11 PM CST THIS EVENING.

Greater Kansas City Metro Area

Tonight: Snow likely, mainly before midnight. Cloudy, with a low around 22. North wind between 10 and 16 mph, with gusts as high as 24 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%. Total nighttime snow accumulation of 3 to 5 inches possible.

Friday: Cloudy, with a high near 30. Northeast wind between 6 and 10 mph.

Friday Night: A slight chance of snow and freezing drizzle. Cloudy, with a low around 25. East wind around 8 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

A WINTER STORM WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL MIDNIGHT CST TONIGHT.

Current Road Conditions

Currently roadway conditions across Northeast Kansas range from partly to completely snowpacked throughout the entire region. *See the chart below for current roadway conditions for individual Northeast Kansas counties.*

Nighttime crews will continue plowing overnight to remove the snow off the roadways. Once the snow stops, crews will have an easier time pushing more snow off the roadways. Crews are only spot treating currently (salt or salt/sand mix). They plan to treat all roadways in the early morning hours to hopefully begin some melting with warmer early morning temps and the increase in traffic.

KDOT advises ALL drivers to please STAY HOME and STAY OFF THE HIGHWAYS overnight as travel conditions are HAZARDOUS and will be as the heavy falling snows continue to move throughout our region. Poor visibility (white-out conditions) and heavy falling snow along with snowpacked/icy road conditions are making roads impassable and VERY DANGEROUS for any travel, even for a short commute across town!

During tomorrow's early morning commutes, drivers need to allow extra time, drive for the conditions on the roadways they are travelling on, and use caution as roadways will be SLICK in spots due to the snowpacked conditions on the roadways.

COUNTY/METRO AREA	CURRENT ROAD CONDITION
KC Metro Area (Johnson/Leavenworth/Wyandotte Counties)	Partly to Completely Snowpacked/Ice
Topeka Metro Area (Shawnee County)	Mostly Snowpacked/Ice

Atchison County	Mostly Snowpacked/Ice
Brown County	Mostly Snowpacked/Ice
Doniphan County	Mostly Snowpacked/Ice
Douglas County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice
Jackson County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice
Jefferson County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice
Lyon County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice
Marshall County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice
Nemaha County	Mostly Snowpacked/Ice
Osage County	Partly to Completely Snowpacked/Ice
Pottawatomie County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice
Riley County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice
Wabaunsee County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice

Current Road Closures for Northeast Kansas

No closed roads at this time.

Driver Safety Tips

Please remind DRIVERS as they travel about to:

1. Take it SLOW!
2. Allow plenty of extra drive time.
3. Watch for icy/slick spots on the roadway; don't assume that if the pavement looks clear, that it is.
4. Buckle up every passenger, every time.
5. If they get stranded, to stay IN their vehicle and call *47 on a state highway/interstate route (any highway that begins with I-, K-, and US-), *KTA on the Kansas Turnpike, or #911 at anytime.

For travel during winter storms, drivers should use caution, allow plenty of driving time, buckle up (every passenger, every time) and be sure to turn on their headlights, and turn off their cruise control. Drivers should also provide for a safe distance or cushion between themselves and vehicles ahead of them.

We also want to remind drivers to stay a safe distance back from KDOT snow plows, and if drivers should pass the snow plows, to be extra careful and allow plenty of room as the trucks do travel slower than surrounding traffic.

Updated Road Conditions (via phone or online 24/7)

Updated Kansas road conditions are at your fingertips. **KanDrive** is the new online travel info portal, www.KanDrive.org, that displays information from KDOT's traveler information technology, including highway cameras, dynamic message signs, traffic management centers and 511 phone, online and mobile (<http://511mm.ksdot.org>). Snapshots from more than 30 closed-circuit cameras along I-70 between Topeka and Colorado and along other highways in the state, as well as camera views from the KC Scout system are available through the new online site, so users can see the roadway conditions.

Travelers can also obtain updated road conditions simply by calling 511 from any phone (landline or cellular), or by clicking on the following link: <http://511.ksdot.org>, drivers can obtain updated all of Kansas road conditions at **anytime, day or night.**

Additional weather-related information can be found online at <http://www.ksdot.org/offTransInfo/511Info/511traffictavel.asp>. This KDOT web site link includes informational brochures on 511 Winter Storm Survival, Managing Snow and Ice on Kansas Highways, and Safe Winter Driving Tips. Drivers...“If the weather is bad, remember with ICE AND SNOW, Take it Slow, or just don't go.”

Media Outlets

For more information and/or to schedule an interview (live/pre-recorded), you can reach me 24/7 on my cell phone at (785) 640-9340 (early morning/overnight, evenings, and weekends included).

Thanks for your continued support! Be safe, don't text & drive. Know B4 U Go!

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