



**For Northeast Kansas
as of 4:00 p.m. CST
Wednesday, February 2, 2011
(UPDATED)**

Current Weather Forecast

Northeast Kansas, including Topeka/Lawrence Metro Area

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around -9. Wind chill values between -15 and -20. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 18. Wind chill values between -11 and -21. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 7. Wind chill values between -4 and 1. South wind around 10 mph.

Wind Chill Advisory

MARSHALL-NEMAHA-BROWN-RILEY-POTTAWATOMIE-JACKSON-JEFFERSON-DICKINSON-GEARY-MORRIS-WABAUNSEE-SHAWNEE-LYON-OSAGE-INCLUDING THE CITIES OF...MARYSVILLE...HIAWATHA...MANHATTAN...ABILENE...JUNCTION CITY...TOPEKA...EMPORIA

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN TOPEKA HAS ISSUED A WIND CHILL ADVISORY...WHICH IS IN EFFECT FROM 9 PM THIS EVENING TO 10 AM CST THURSDAY.

* TIMING...WIND CHILLS OF 15 TO 23 BELOW ZERO WILL RETURN AGAIN THIS EVENING INTO THURSDAY MORNING.

* WINDS...NORTHWEST WINDS OF 5 TO 15 MPH ARE EXPECTED OVERNIGHT.

* IMPACTS...BITTERLY COLD ARCTIC AIR COMBINED WITH LIGHT NORTHWEST WINDS WILL RESULT IN LOWEST WIND CHILL INDICES OF 15 TO 24 DEGREES THIS EVENING INTO THURSDAY MORNING. FROSTBITE AND HYPOTHERMIA ARE POSSIBLE IF PRECAUTIONS ARE NOT TAKEN TO PROTECT EXPOSED SKIN FROM THE ELEMENTS.

A WIND CHILL ADVISORY MEANS THAT VERY COLD AIR AND STRONG WINDS WILL COMBINE TO GENERATE LOW WIND CHILLS. CONSIDER TAKING A WINTER STORM KIT ALONG IF YOU MUST TRAVEL TONIGHT.

EXPOSED SKIN CAN SUFFER FROM FROSTBITE IN A VERY SHORT TIME...SO DRESS ADEQUATELY. BE SURE TO WEAR LAYERED CLOTHING...A HAT...AND GLOVES TO PROTECT YOU FROM THE DANGERS OF FROSTBITE

Greater Kansas City Metro Area

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around -6. Wind chill values between -8 and -18. North northwest wind 6 to 9 mph becoming west southwest.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 18. Wind chill values between -10 and -20. Southwest wind between 6 and 10 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 4. Wind chill values between -9 and 1. Southwest wind around 10 mph.

Wind Chill Advisory

LEAVENWORTH-WYANDOTTE-JOHNSON-DOUGLAS KS-CLINTON-PLATTE-CLAY-JACKSON-INCLUDING THE CITIES OF...LEAVENWORTH...OVERLAND PARK...OLATHE...PLATTSBURG...PARKVILLE...PLATTE CITY...WESTON...LIBERTY...EXCELSIOR SPRINGS...KANSAS CITY...INDEPENDENCE

A WIND CHILL ADVISORY REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL NOON CST THURSDAY.

* LOCATIONS...NORTH CENTRAL AND CENTRAL TOWARD NORTHEAST MISSOURI INCLUDING THE COMMUNITIES OF BETHANY...CAMERON...KIRKSVILLE...CARROLLTON...SEDALIA AND BOONVILLE.

* TIMING...VERY COLD WIND CHILLS FROM ZERO TO 10 BELOW ZERO ARE EXPECTED THIS AFTERNOON. MUCH COLDER TEMPERATURES ARE EXPECTED TONIGHT WITH BITTERLY COLD WIND CHILL READINGS OF 20 TO 25 BELOW ZERO EXPECTED THURSDAY MORNING.

* IMPACTS...PROLONGED EXPOSURE COULD LEAD TO HYPOTHERMIA IF PRECAUTIONS ARE NOT TAKEN. IF YOU MUST VENTURE OUTDOORS...MAKE SURE YOU WEAR A HAT AND GLOVES.

* ADDITIONAL IMPACTS...DUE TO THE RECENT VERY HEAVY SNOWFALL AND CONTINUED BREEZY CONDITIONS...SOME BLOWING AND DRIFTING SNOW CAN STILL BE EXPECTED. THIS COMBINED WITH THE BITTERLY COLD WIND CHILLS COULD LEAD TO A POTENTIALLY LIFE THREATENING SITUATION SHOULD YOU BECOME STRANDED.

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...A WIND CHILL ADVISORY MEANS THAT VERY COLD AIR AND STRONG WINDS WILL COMBINE TO GENERATE LOW WIND CHILLS. THIS WILL RESULT IN FROST BITE AND LEAD TO HYPOTHERMIA IF PRECAUTIONS ARE NOT TAKEN. IF YOU MUST VENTURE OUTDOORS...MAKE SURE YOU WEAR A HAT AND GLOVES.

PRACTICE YOUR WINTER SAFETY RULES...KEEP A FLASHLIGHT...SHOVEL...FOOD AND WATER IN YOUR CAR IN CASE OF EMERGENCY. TRAVEL SHOULD BE AVOIDED AS PERSONS COULD BECOME STRANDED RESULTING IN A POTENTIALLY LIFE-THREATENING SITUATION.

IN CASE OF POSSIBLE POWER OUTAGES...PERSONS ARE URGED TO ENSURE AN AMPLE SUPPLY OF FOOD AND MEDICATION...AS WELL AS HAVING AN ALTERNATIVE HEAT SUPPLY READY. DO NOT RUN GENERATORS INDOORS TO PREVENT CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING. PROTECT YOUR WATER SUPPLY FROM FROZEN PIPES.

Current Road Conditions

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

Road conditions have improved significantly during the daytime hours. Daytime crews applied a treatment of salt and/or salt/sand mix to the roadways earlier this morning. The treatment, along with the sun's warmth, helped expedite melting, allowing the crews to plow the packed snow off the roadways throughout the daytime hours. We are unsure at this point in time if nighttime crews will be needed in all areas. That decision will be made during the early evening hours and will be dependent on the road conditions at that time.

During the evening/overnight hours, drivers should still allow extra time, drive for the conditions on the roadways they are travelling on, and use caution as roadways may be SLICK in spots due to the frigid temps that will occur overnight. Also, we want to remind drivers not to "plow through" drifts as their chances of becoming stuck are very likely.

COUNTY/METRO AREA	CURRENT ROAD CONDITION
KC Metro Area (Johnson/Leavenworth/Wyandotte Counties)	Wet/Slush to Spots Snowpacked/Ice
Topeka Metro Area (Shawnee County)	Normal Seasonal Conditions to Mostly Snowpacked/Ice
Atchison County	Spots to Partly Snowpacked/Ice
Brown County	Partly Snowpacked/Ice
Doniphan County	Spots to Mostly Snowpacked/Ice
Douglas County	Wet/Slush to Spots Snowpacked/Ice

Jackson County	Spots Snowpacked/Ice
Jefferson County	Spots Snowpacked/Ice
Lyon County	Spots Snowpacked/Ice
Marshall County	Normal Seasonal Conditions to Spots Snowpacked/Ice
Nemaha County	Partly Snowpacked/Ice
Osage County	Partly Snowpacked/Ice
Pottawatomie County	Normal Seasonal Conditions to Spots Snowpacked/Ice
Riley County	Normal Seasonal Conditions to Spots Snowpacked/Ice
Wabaunsee County	Spots Snowpacked/Ice

Current Road Closures for Northeast Kansas

[K-99 in Marshall County](#) is **STILL CLOSED** from the east city limits of Beattie to the Nebraska state line for (approximately 12 miles) to all traffic! K-99 has been closed due to drifting conditions and a stalled semi off the roadway as of 6:15 p.m., Tuesday, February 1.

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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