



**For Northeast Kansas  
as of 9:00 p.m. CST  
Tuesday, February 1, 2011  
(UPDATED)**

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**Current Weather Forecast**

**Northeast Kansas, including Topeka/Lawrence Metro Area**

**Tonight...**Bitterly cold. Windy. Snow in the evening...then snow likely after midnight. Blowing snow through the night. Snow accumulation around 1 inch. Lows around 1 below. North winds 20 to 30 mph with gusts to around 40 mph. Wind chill readings as cold as 22 below.

**Wednesday...**Very cold. Partly sunny. Areas of blowing snow in the morning. Highs around 9 above. Northwest winds 10 to 20 mph with gusts to around 30 mph. Wind chill readings as cold as 22 below.

**Wednesday Night...**Bitterly cold. Mostly clear. Near record lows around 8 below. Northwest winds 5 to 10 mph. Wind chill readings as cold as 17 below.

**Winter Storm Warning**

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

**A WINTER STORM WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 6 AM CST WEDNESDAY.**

\* TIMING...MODERATE TO HEAVY SNOW WILL PERSIST THROUGH THE AFTERNOON BEFORE DIMINISHING TONIGHT.

\* TOTAL SNOW...TOTAL SNOW ACCUMULATIONS OF 6 TO 11 INCHES ARE EXPECTED BY LATE TONIGHT.

\* WINDS...NORTH WINDS WILL INCREASE TO 20 TO 30 MPH WITH GUSTS TO 35 MPH. THIS WILL PRODUCE AREAS OF SIGNIFICANT BLOWING AND DRIFTING SNOW.

\* IMPACTS...CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED TO REMAIN POOR INTO THE EVENING HOURS AS PERIODS OF MODERATE TO HEAVY SNOW COMBINE WITH WIND DRIVEN SNOW TO PRODUCE POOR VISIBILITIES AND EXTREMELY HAZARDOUS DRIVING CONDITIONS. WITH BITTERLY COLD ARCTIC AIR ALSO OVERSPREADING THE AREA...WIND CHILL INDICES OF 15 TO 25 DEGREES BELOW ZERO CAN ALSO BE EXPECTED TONIGHT.

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...TRAVEL IN STRONG WINDS AND HEAVY SNOW IS STRONGLY DISCOURAGED. MAKE SURE THAT YOUR GASOLINE TANK IS FULL BEFORE YOUR TRIP. ALSO CHECK ANTIFREEZE LEVELS IN YOUR RADIATOR. CONSIDER TAKING A WINTER STORM KIT ALONG WITH YOU...INCLUDING SUCH ITEMS AS TIRE CHAINS...BOOSTER CABLES...FLASHLIGHT...SHOVEL...A BAG OF SAND OR CAT LITTER...BLANKETS AND EXTRA CLOTHING...WATER...A FIRST AID KIT...OR ANYTHING ELSE THAT WOULD HELP YOU SURVIVE IN CASE YOU BECOME STRANDED. 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:** Snow and areas of blowing snow before midnight, then areas of blowing snow and a chance of snow after midnight. Low around 3. Wind chill values between -6 and -15. Blustery, with a north northwest wind between 21 and 28 mph, with gusts as high as 37 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. Total nighttime snow accumulation of 1 to 3 inches possible.

**Wednesday:** Areas of blowing snow before noon. Mostly cloudy and cold, with a high near 10. Wind chill values between -7 and -17. Blustery, with a north northwest wind between 11 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 29 mph.

**Wednesday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around -7. Wind chill values between -13 and -18. Northwest wind between 6 and 9 mph.

**Blizzard Warning**

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 BLIZZARD WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 6 AM CST WEDNESDAY.**

\* LOCATIONS...KANSAS CITY AND SURROUNDINGS AREAS INCLUDING OLATHE...PLATTE CITY...LEAVENWORTH...LIBERTY...LEES SUMMIT AND RAYMORE.

\* TIMING...THE SNOW WILL CONTINUE TO DIMINISH THIS EVENING AND END BY DAYBREAK.

\* SNOW ACCUMULATIONS...ADDITIONAL ACCUMULATIONS TONIGHT WILL BE AN AROUND AN INCH.

\* IMPACTS...ROADS WILL BE SNOW COVERED AND TRAVEL WILL BE DANGEROUS IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE. INTERSTATE 70 FROM MILE MARKER 15 TO MILE MARKER 212 HAS ALREADY BEEN CLOSED DUE TO THE EXTREME SNOWFALL... AND THIS STORM STILL HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BRING TRAVEL ON OTHER ROADS TO A HALT THROUGH EARLY WEDNESDAY.

\* OTHER IMPACTS...STRONG WINDS BETWEEN 25 AND 40 MPH WILL PERSIST ACROSS THE REGION TONIGHT...CREATING SIGNIFICANT BLOWING AND DRIFTING SNOW ALONG WITH WHITEOUT CONDITIONS THROUGH EARLY WEDNESDAY. BLIZZARD CONDITIONS WILL BE POSSIBLE ON ALL MAJOR ROADWAYS THIS THROUGH TONIGHT. THE STRONG WINDS MAY ALSO LEAD TO POWER OUTAGES...WHICH WOULD PRODUCE IMPACTS LONG AFTER THE SNOW HAS ENDED. IN ADDITION...WIND CHILLS FROM 15 TO 20 BELOW ZERO ARE EXPECTED BY WEDNESDAY MORNING.

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...A BLIZZARD WARNING MEANS SEVERE WINTER WEATHER CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED OR OCCURRING. FALLING AND BLOWING SNOW WITH STRONG WINDS AND POOR VISIBILITIES ARE LIKELY. THIS WILL LEAD TO WHITEOUT CONDITIONS...MAKING TRAVEL EXTREMELY DANGEROUS. DO NOT TRAVEL. IF YOU MUST TRAVEL...HAVE A WINTER SURVIVAL KIT WITH YOU. IF YOU GET STRANDED...STAY WITH YOUR VEHICLE.

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. PROTECT YOUR WATER SUPPLY FROM FROZEN PIPES.

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**Current Road Conditions**

Currently roadway conditions across Northeast Kansas range from drifting to mostly to completely snowpacked throughout the region. *See the chart below for current roadway conditions for individual Northeast Kansas counties.* Road conditions are not expected to improve much over the next 24 hours or so due to the ongoing blowing and drifting snow.

KDOT nighttime crews will continue plowing as daytime crews have headed home to get some much needed rest. The blowing and drifting snow will continue to challenge crews in trying to keep the roadways clear and free of snow.

**We strongly encourage drivers to Stay Home, Stay Warm, Stay Safe tonight and tomorrow both!**

If drivers must get out, they should allow extra time for their daily commute and should drive for the conditions on the roadways they are travelling on. Roadways may be SLICK due to the snowpacked conditions, so drivers need to use caution and take it slow as they travel about tonight and.

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

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

### Current Road Closures for Northeast Kansas

[K-74 in Atchison County](#) is **NOW CLOSED** from the junction of US-73 to Potter to all traffic! K-74 has been closed due to drifting conditions on the roadway as of 6:15 p.m., Tuesday, February 1.

[K-99 in Marshall County](#) is **NOW 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.

[US-159 in Atchison County](#) is **NOW CLOSED** from two miles north of Effingham to Muscotah to all traffic! US-159 has been closed due to drifting conditions and several stalled vehicles 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](http://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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