



**For Northeast Kansas  
as of 9:30 p.m. CST  
Thursday, January 19, 2011  
(UPDATED)**

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**Current Weather Forecast**

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

**Tonight:** Snow. Low around 12. North wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. Total nighttime snow accumulation of 3 to 5 inches possible.

**Thursday:** Cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 22. North wind between 5 and 15 mph.

**Thursday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 4. Wind chill values between -10 and zero. Calm wind becoming south between 5 and 10 mph.

**Winter Storm Warning**

MARSHALL-NEMAHA-BROWN-RILEY-POTTAWATOMIE-JACKSON-JEFFERSON-WABAUNSEE-SHAWNEE-DOUGLAS-OSAGE-FRANKLIN-INCLUDING THE CITIES OF...MARYSVILLE...HIAWATHA...MANHATTAN...TOPEKA...LAWRENCE...OTTAWA

**A WINTER STORM WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT FROM 9 AM THIS MORNING TO 6 AM CST THURSDAY.**

\* TIMING...ONGOING SNOWFALL WILL CONTINUE TO FALL MODERATELY TO HEAVILY AT TIMES ACROSS NORTHEAST KANSAS. EXPECT THIS SNOW TO CONTINUE THROUGH THE EVENING HOURS AND GRADUALLY COME TO AN END BY MIDNIGHT.

\* TOTAL SNOW ACCUMULATIONS...AN ADDITIONAL 2 TO 4 INCHES OF SNOW ARE POSSIBLE ACROSS THE WARNING AREA THROUGH MIDNIGHT.

\* WINDS...NORTHEAST WINDS AT 10 TO 15 MPH MAY CONTRIBUTE TO REDUCED VISIBILITIES AND MINOR DRIFTING.

\* IMPACTS...TRAVEL WILL BE DIFFICULT AND HAZARDOUS...PARTICULARLY DURING THE EVENING COMMUTE...WHEN SNOWFALL COULD BE AT ITS HEAVIEST.

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...THOSE WITH TRAVEL PLANS ARE ADVISED TO RECONSIDER...AND SHOULD USE EXTREME CAUTION IF TRAVEL IS UNAVOIDABLE.

**Greater Kansas City Metro Area**

**Tonight:** Snow. The snow could be heavy at times. Low around 13. North northeast wind around 9 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. Total nighttime snow accumulation of 3 to 5 inches possible.

**Thursday:** A slight chance of light snow before noon. Cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny, with a high near 19. North northwest wind around 9 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Thursday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 3. North northwest wind between 5 and 8 mph becoming calm.

**Winter Storm Warning**

ATCHISON KS-MIAMI-DONIPHAN-LEAVENWORTH-WYANDOTTE-JOHNSON KS-BUCHANAN-CLINTON-CALDWELL-PLATTE-CLAY-RAY-JACKSON-CASS-INCLUDING THE CITIES OF...ATCHISON...PAOLA...TROY...LEAVENWORTH...OVERLAND PARK...OLATHE...ST. JOSEPH...PLATTSBURG...HAMILTON...POLO...PARKVILLE...PLATTE CITY...WESTON...LIBERTY...EXCELSIOR SPRINGS...RICHMOND...KANSAS CITY...INDEPENDENCE...RAYMORE...HARRISONVILLE...PLEASANT HILL

**A WINTER STORM WARNING FOR HEAVY SNOW REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 6 AM CST THURSDAY.**

\* LOCATIONS IMPACTED BY THIS WARNING INCLUDE EASTERN KANSAS...AS WELL AS PORTIONS OF NORTHWESTERN AND WEST CENTRAL MISSOURI.

THIS INCLUDES THE ENTIRE KANSAS CITY METROPOLITAN AREA. SOME CITIES THAT WILL BE IMPACTED BY HEAVY SNOW INCLUDE KANSAS

CITY...LEES SUMMIT...OVERLAND PARK...OLATHE...ATCHISON...ST. JOSEPH AND LEAVENWORTH.

\* SHORT TERM FORECAST...MODERATE TO HEAVY SNOW WILL CONTINUE THROUGH 1 AM WITH THE SNOW GRADUALLY DIMINISHING AFTER 1 AM. THE SNOW WILL REDUCE VISIBILITIES TO ONE QUARTER MILE AT TIMES. SNOWFALL RATES OF AN INCH PER HOUR ARE EXPECTED FROM 8 PM TO 1 AM. AN ADDITIONAL 2 TO 5 INCHES ARE LIKELY TONIGHT. TOTAL SNOWFALL IS EXPECTED TO RANGE FROM 6 TO 9 INCHES WITH LOCALLY HIGHER AMOUNTS. THE SNOW IS EXPECTED TO END THURSDAY MORNING.

\* IMPACTS...HEAVY SNOWFALL MAY RESULT IN LONG DELAYS ON BOTH PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ROUTES...IF DESTINATIONS CAN BE REACHED

AT ALL. TRAVELERS SHOULD AVOID TRAVEL IF AT ALL POSSIBLE AND PREPARE ALTERNATIVE PLANS.

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...A WINTER STORM WARNING MEANS SIGNIFICANT SNOW ACCUMULATIONS ARE EXPECTED THAT WILL GREATLY IMPACT TRAVEL. MOTORISTS SHOULD REMAIN ALERT TO CHANGING WEATHER CONDITIONS...AND TAKE NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS IF TRAVEL IS NECESSARY. CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE LATEST FORECASTS.

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### **Current Road Conditions**

KDOT crews continue to plow the accumulating snow on all Northeast Kansas roadways. All northeast Kansas counties are impacted by the current winter snow storm. *See the chart below for current roadway conditions for individual northeast Kansas counties.* Roadway conditions across all of northeast Kansas now are completely snowpacked/icy.

With continued falling snow throughout the overnight hours, KDOT crews will continue to plow to keep pushing the accumulating snow off the roadways. KDOT nighttime crews are now out and daytime crews have headed home to rest for their shift beginning tomorrow morning at 8 a.m.

Roadway conditions will remain snowpacked during the overnight hours. Once the snow stops sometime during the early morning hours, crews will then be able to plow and apply treatment (salt or salt/sand mixture) to accelerate melting so they can get to the roadway pavement.

Roads are slick and travel hazardous due to the snowpacked road conditions. If drivers must head out, they need to buckle up, TAKE IT SLOW, use caution, allow extra time and drive for the current roadway conditions for their evening commutes.

| <b>COUNTY/METRO AREA</b>                               | <b>CURRENT ROAD CONDITION</b> |
|--|-------------------------------|
| KC Metro Area (Johnson/Leavenworth/Wyandotte Counties) | Completely Snowpacked/Icy     |
| Topeka Metro Area (Shawnee County)                     | Completely Snowpacked/Icy     |
| Atchison County  | Completely Snowpacked/Icy     |
| Brown County   | Completely Snowpacked/Icy     |
| Doniphan County  | Completely Snowpacked/Icy     |
| Douglas County   | Completely Snowpacked/Icy     |
| Jackson County   | Completely Snowpacked/Icy     |
| Jefferson County                                       | Completely Snowpacked/Icy     |
| Lyon County  | Completely Snowpacked/Icy     |
| Marshall County  | Completely Snowpacked/Icy     |
| Nemaha County  | Completely Snowpacked/Icy     |
| Osage County   | Completely Snowpacked/Icy     |
| Pottawatomie County                                    | Completely Snowpacked/Icy     |
| Riley County   | Completely Snowpacked/Icy     |

## 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.*

## Current Road Closures for Northeast Kansas

No closed roads to report at this time.

## 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!

**Kimberly K. Qualls**  
**NE Kansas Public Affairs Manager**  
**Kansas Dept. of Transportation**  
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[www.kandrive.org](http://www.kandrive.org)

Follow KDOT on Twitter ([www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com)):  
Topeka/Lawrence Metro Area: @TopekaMetroKDOT  
Kansas City Metro Area: @KansasCityKDOT  
NE Kansas: @NEKansasKDOT

## **Current Weather Forecast**

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**Thursday:** Cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 22. North wind between 5 and 15 mph.

**Thursday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 4. Wind chill values between -10 and zero. Calm wind becoming south between 5 and 10 mph.

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\* SNOWFALL AMOUNTS OF 2 TO 4 INCHES WILL OCCUR BY THE END OF THE AFTERNOON COMMUTE...WITH AN ADDITIONAL 3 TO 5 INCHES EXPECTED THIS EVENING. STORM TOTAL AMOUNTS OF 5 AND 8 INCHES...WITH LOCALLY HIGHER AMOUNTS...ARE EXPECTED ALONG THE INTERSTATE 70 AND 29 CORRIDORS BEFORE THE SNOW TAPERS OFF EARLY THURSDAY MORNING.

\* IMPACTS...WITH THE HEAVY SNOW ONGOING...THE AFTERNOON COMMUTE WILL BE SEVERELY IMPACTED. HEAVY SNOWFALL MAY RESULT IN LONG DELAYS ON BOTH PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ROUTES...WITH TRAVEL TIMES TAKING THREE TO FOUR TIMES LONGER THAN USUAL...IF DESTINATIONS CAN BE REACHED AT ALL. TRAVELERS SHOULD AVOID TRAVEL IF AT ALL POSSIBLE AND PREPARE ALTERNATIVE PLANS.

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**Current Road Conditions**

**KDOT crews continue to plow the accumulating snow and spot treating with salt or sand/salt mixture as needed on all Northeast Kansas roadways. All northeast Kansas counties are impacted by the current winter snow storm. See the chart below for current roadway conditions for individual northeast Kansas counties. Roadway conditions across northeast Kansas now are mostly (Kansas City Metro Area only) to completely snowpacked/icy.**

**With continued falling snow throughout the evening/overnight hours, KDOT crews will continue to plow to keep pushing the accumulating snow off the roadways. KDOT daytime crews will head home to rest up and nighttime crews will take over between 7-8 p.m. this evening to begin their 12-hour shift.**

**KDOT ENCOURAGES ALL DRIVERS TO STAY HOME THIS EVENING IF AT ALL POSSIBLE AS TRAVEL WILL BE HAZARDOUS. If drivers must head out, they need to TAKE IT SLOW, use caution, allow extra time and drive for the current roadway conditions for their evening commutes.**

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| <b>Jefferson County</b>                                       | <b>Completely Snowpacked/Icy</b> |
| <b>Lyon County</b>  | <b>Completely Snowpacked/Icy</b> |
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