



**For Northeast Kansas
as of 11:00 a.m. CST
Tuesday, December 8, 2009**

Current Weather Forecast:

Northeast Kansas, including Topeka/Lawrence Metro Area

Today: Snow, freezing rain, and sleet before noon, then snow and sleet. High near 32. East wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north. Chance of precipitation is 100%. Little or no ice accumulation expected. Total daytime snow and sleet accumulation of 3 to 7 inches possible.

Tonight: Snow before midnight, then areas of blowing snow and a chance of snow after midnight. Low around 11. Wind chill values between -6 and 4. Windy, with a north wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to between 25 and 30 mph. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. New snow accumulation of 1 to 3 inches possible.

Winter Storm Warning

Marshall-Nemaha-Brown-Riley-Pottawatomie-Jackson-Jefferson-Geary-Morris-Wabaunsee-Shawnee-Douglas-Lyon-Osage-including the cities of...Marysville...Hiawatha...Manhattan...Junction City...Topeka...Lawrence...Emporia.

Winter storm warning now in effect until 6 am CST Wednesday, December 9.

Accumulations: storm total amounts commonly from 7 to 12 inches with locally 15 inches along and north of a line from Herington to Lawrence; 5 to 9 inches south of a line from Herington to Lawrence.

Winds: will increase and become northwesterly at 20 to 30 mph with gusts to 40 mph this evening causing blowing and drifting snow and dropping wind chill values into the -5 to -20 degree range.

Greater Kansas City Metro Area

Today: Snow before noon, then snow and sleet. High near 34. East wind between 6 and 11 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. Total daytime snow and sleet accumulation of 2 to 4 inches possible.

Tonight: Snow before midnight, then widespread blowing snow and a chance of snow after midnight. Low around 13. Wind chill values between -5 and 5. Blustery, with a north northwest wind 6 to 9 mph increasing to between 21 and 24 mph. Winds could gust as high as 33 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. New snow accumulation of 1 to 3 inches possible.

Winter Weather Advisory

Miami-Johnson KS-Chariton-Randolph-Jackson-Lafayette-Saline-Cass-Johnson MO, including the cities of: Paola...Overland Park...Olathe...Salisbury...Keytesville...Moberly...Kansas City...Independence...Lexington...Concordia...Marshall...Raymore...Harrisonville...Pleasant Hill...Warrensburg.

The National Weather Service in Kansas City/Pleasant Hill has issued a winter weather advisory for snow and sleet...which is in effect until 6 am CST Wednesday, December 9.

For areas along and southeast of a Kansas City to Marshall to Moberly line. Skies should remain generally cloudy overnight with a few patches of light snow or flurries possible. Little to no accumulation is expected. Dry air will likely limit precipitation during the day Tuesday as well...with areas of light snow or drizzle expected. Temperatures should warm to around freezing by afternoon but some freezing drizzle may be possible during the morning resulting in a few slick spots.

The greatest impact along and south of the Missouri River will likely occur Tuesday night as snow overspreads the area ahead of an approaching strong storm system. Snow may be briefly heavy during the evening hours, but accumulations will be limited by the forward speed of the storm. Areas from Kansas City to Marshall may see 2 to 4 inches of snowfall during the evening...with amounts increasing further north and west and decreasing toward the south and east.

After the transition back to snow, blowing snow and bitterly cold wind chills are expected late Tuesday night into Wednesday as strong northerly winds of 25 to 35 mph overspread the region. The blowing snow may greatly reduce visibilities...creating even more dangerous driving conditions. Temperatures will fall through the teens into the single digits Wednesday night with wind chill readings below zero.

Current Road Conditions

Snow and/or sleet continues to fall on and off throughout Northeast Kansas. Roadways are still snowpacked in many areas, though some roadways have now returned to wet/slushy conditions.

Snowfall amounts vary throughout the Northeast Kansas area, anywhere from 2 inches up to 6 inches the further north you head, and the snow fall totals may increase in some areas throughout the day on Tuesday.

KDOT crew will continue to treat (with sand/salt mixture) and plow roadways throughout the afternoon and into the evening/overnight hours as needed.

Driver Safety Tips

For travel throughout today, drivers should use caution, allow plenty of driving 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.

COUNTY/METRO AREA	CURRENT ROAD CONDITION	New Update Yes/No
KC Metro Area (Johnson/Leavenworth/Wyandotte Counties)	Wet/Slush (JO/WY CO) Partly to Mostly Snowpacked/Ice (LV CO)	No
Topeka Metro Area (Shawnee County)	Wet/Slush	Yes
Atchison County	Mostly to Completely Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Brown County	Mostly to Completely Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Doniphan County	Mostly to Completely Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Douglas County	Wet/Slush	Yes
Jackson County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice	No
Jefferson County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Lyon County	Wet/Slush	Yes
Marshall County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice	No
Nemaha County	Mostly to Completely Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Osage County	Wet/Slush	Yes
Pottawatomie County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice	No
Riley County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice	No
Wabaunsee County	Wet/Slush to Spots Snowpacked/Ice	Yes

Current Road Closures

No road closures to report at this time.

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

Updated Kansas road conditions are at your fingertips. 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

121 SW 21st Street
Topeka, KS 66612
P: (785) 296-3881
C: (785) 640-9340
kqualls@ksdot.org
www.ksdot.org
www.kandrive.org

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