



**For Northeast Kansas
as of 3:30 p.m. CST
Wednesday, December 9, 2009**

Current Weather Forecast:

Northeast Kansas, including Topeka/Lawrence Metro Area

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 0. Wind chill values between -5 and -10. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 22. Wind chill values between -1 and -11. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 7. Southwest wind around 5 mph.

There are no Winter Weather Advisories in place at this time.

Greater Kansas City Metro Area

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 2. Wind chill values between -3 and -13. West wind between 9 and 16 mph, with gusts as high as 24 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 23. Wind chill values between -3 and -13. West southwest wind around 10 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 9. Wind chill values between -1 and 4. West southwest wind between 6 and 8 mph.

There are no Winter Weather Advisories in place at this time.

Current Road Conditions

Currently, we still have some blowing/drifted snow and freezing temperatures which is keeping some roadways snowpacked. Roadways in the Metro Areas, Topeka, Kansas City and Lawrence, and the Emporia area (Lyon/Osage Counties) have returned to wet/slush or normal seasonal conditions and drivers will have a smooth commute home this afternoon. The wet/slush conditions in the Metro Areas will dissipate this evening as the roadways "freeze dry."

KDOT will keep some crews on overnight to treat (with sand/salt mixture) and plow those roadways still covered with snow in the affected Northeast Kansas counties. *See the chart below for current roadway conditions for individual northeast Kansas counties.*

Majority of the area highways (mainly outside of the Metro Areas) continue to be snowpacked across Northeast Kansas. As snow melts on the highway surface, the extreme cold temperatures, gusting winds, and blowing snow keep re-creating icy/slick spots on the roadway pavement. Despite KDOT crews continued efforts to treat and plow the roadways, the extreme cold and gusting winds can refreeze a wet spot on the roadway in no time at all.

Please remind DRIVERS as they travel about this evening/overnight 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.

Driver Safety Tips

For travel throughout the evening and overnight hours, 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.

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

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