



For Northeast Kansas
7:00 p.m. CST
Saturday, February 20, 2010

Updates from around Kansas & neighboring states

No updates at this time.

Current National Weather Service Forecast

Northeast Kansas, including Topeka/Lawrence Metro Area – NEW!

Tonight: Snow and freezing rain. Low around 30. Northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. Little or no ice accumulation expected. Total nighttime snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible.

Sunday: Snow and freezing rain, becoming all snow after noon. High near 32. Breezy, with a north wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. Little or no ice accumulation expected. New snow accumulation of 3 to 5 inches possible.

Sunday Night: Snow likely, mainly before midnight. Cloudy, with a low around 19. Blustery, with a north wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible.

Monday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 28. North wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

WINTER WEATHER WARNING

REPUBLIC-WASHINGTON-MARSHALL-NEMAHA-BROWN-CLOUD-CLAY-RILEY-POTTAWATOMIE-JACKSON-JEFFERSON-OTTAWA-DICKINSON-GEARY-MORRIS-WABAUNSEE-SHAWNEE-INCLUDING THE CITIES OF...MARYSVILLE...HIAWATHA...CONCORDIA...CLAY CENTER...MANHATTAN...ABILENE...JUNCTION CITY...TOPEKA

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

Timing...precipitation will become widespread this evening and continue through Sunday afternoon. The most significant snow amounts are expected to fall on Sunday.

Total snow and ice accumulations...snowfall of 4 to 7 inches will be possible along and north of Interstate 70.

Winds...north wind 15 to 20 mph will gust up to 35 mph by Sunday afternoon.

Impacts...blowing snow will also contribute to hazardous travel conditions by Sunday afternoon.

Precautionary/preparedness actions...a winter storm warning for heavy snow means severe winter weather conditions are expected or occurring. Significant amounts of snow are forecast that will make travel dangerous. Only travel in an emergency. If you must travel...keep an extra flashlight... Food...and water in your vehicle in case of an emergency.

Greater Kansas City Metro Area - – NEW!

Tonight: Snow and sleet, possibly mixed with freezing rain before midnight, then freezing rain and sleet. Low around 31.

Northeast wind between 8 and 13 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. Total nighttime ice accumulation of less than a 0.1 of an inch possible. Total nighttime snow and sleet accumulation of less than a half inch possible.

Sunday: Rain, snow, freezing rain, and sleet before noon, then snow between noon and 3pm, then snow and sleet after 3pm. Some thunder is also possible. High near 33. North northeast wind between 13 and 18 mph, with gusts as high as 28 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. New ice accumulation of 0.1 to 0.3 of an inch possible. New snow and sleet accumulation of 2 to 4 inches possible.

Sunday Night: Snow and sleet, becoming all snow after 9pm. Low around 21. North northwest wind between 14 and 18 mph, with gusts as high as 28 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80%. New snow and sleet accumulation of around an inch possible.

Monday: Cloudy, with a high near 29. North northwest wind between 9 and 14 mph, with gusts as high as 21 mph.

WINTER WEATHER WARNING

LEAVENWORTH-WYANDOTTE-PLATTE-CLAY-RAY-INCLUDING THE CITIES

OF...LEAVENWORTH...PARKVILLE...PLATTE CITY...WESTON...LIBERTY...EXCELSIOR SPRINGS...RICHMOND

A WINTER STORM WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT FOR SNOW...SLEET AND FREEZING RAIN UNTIL MIDNIGHT CST SUNDAY NIGHT.

Location...this winter storm warning includes portions of eastern Kansas and west central Missouri including the northern half of the Kansas City metropolitan area.

Timing...precipitation in the form of snow...sleet...and freezing rain is expected tonight and Sunday morning...transitioning to all snow Sunday afternoon. The snow will continue into Sunday evening...diminishing to flurries after midnight Sunday night. Blowing and drifting snow is also likely Sunday night.

Snow...sleet and ice accumulations...snow amounts tonight will be around an inch with accumulations of ice up to a tenth of an inch. Total ice accumulations may approach one quarter of an inch with sleet accumulations up to a half inch. Total snow accumulations of to 6 inches are possible but a longer duration of sleet will reduce snow amounts.

Impacts...roads will likely become slick and hazardous with some blowing and drifting of the snow Sunday night.

Precautionary/preparedness actions...make sure you have an adequate supply of food. Check prescriptions to ensure an adequate supply of medicine through the duration of the storm. Check furnaces and fuel levels...and if travel is necessary...make sure your car is winterized and in good working order.

Current Road Conditions – NEW!

Road conditions currently vary from normal seasonal in the northern most counties to wet/slush to spots/partly snowpacked in the southern counties in NE Kansas counties. In those counties where snow/sleet has accumulated on the roadways (including Topeka/Lawrence and Kansas City Metro Areas), crews are plowing and treating (salt or salt/sand mixture) as needed. See the chart below for current roadway conditions for individual northeast Kansas counties.

Highways, including mainline lanes, ramp areas, bridges and overpasses, are BECOMING SLICK due to the sleet/snowpacked conditions in those NE Kansas counties affected by the new sleet/snowfall. SLIDE-OFFS are being reported already! Drivers need to use caution, TAKE IT SLOW and allow for extra time during the evening and overnight commutes.

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.

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

Current Road Closures for Northeast Kansas

No closed roads to report.

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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