



**For Northeast Kansas
as of 7:00 a.m. CST
Monday, March 14, 2011
(UPDATES)**

National Weather Service Current Weather Forecast

Northeast Kansas, including Topeka/Lawrence Metro Area

Today: Periods of snow before 1pm, then a chance of rain and snow. High near 40. North northeast wind between 6 and 9 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80%. Total daytime snow accumulation of 1 to 2 inches possible.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 29. East northeast wind around 6 mph becoming calm.

Winter Weather Advisory in effect until 10 AM this morning.

Greater Kansas City Metro Area

Today: Snow likely, mainly before 10am. Cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny, with a high near 41. Northeast wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70%. Total daytime snow accumulation of less than one inch possible.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 29. Northeast wind around 5 mph becoming calm.

Winter Weather Advisory in effect until 10 AM this morning.

Current Road Conditions

Currently roadway conditions across Northeast Kansas are primarily wet/slush to spots to partly to completely snowpacked throughout the entire region. *See the chart below for current roadway conditions for individual Northeast Kansas counties.*

Nighttime crews continue to plow and treat as needed in those areas where snow/sleet continues to fall, though in most areas they simply continue to monitor weather/roadways as most road conditions are primarily wet/slush. Nighttime crews will head home around 7-8 a.m. and daytime crews will take over winter storm operations.

During the morning commutes, drivers should remember that roadways are WET with some slushy spots and that more snow/sleet is possible yet this morning. Drivers should allow some extra time, use caution and use speeds appropriate for the current driving conditions.

COUNTY/METRO AREA	CURRENT ROAD CONDITION
KC Metro Area (Johnson/Leavenworth/Wyandotte Counties)	Wet/Slush
Topeka Metro Area (Shawnee County)	Wet/Slush
Atchison County	Spots Snowpacked/Ice

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

Current Road Closures for Northeast Kansas

No closed roads at this time.

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, 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
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