



**For Northeast Kansas
as of 5:30 a.m. CST
Wednesday, December 9, 2009**

Current Weather Forecast:

Northeast Kansas, including Topeka/Lawrence Metro Area

Today: Areas of blowing snow and a chance of flurries before noon. Cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny, with a high near 14. Wind chill values between -4 and -9. Blustery, with a northwest wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph. Chance of precipitation is 10%.

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.

Winter Weather Advisory

The National Weather Service in Topeka has issued a winter Weather Advisory for blowing snow, which is in effect until 6 am CST Wednesday.

Northwesterly winds at 20 to 30 mph with gusts to 40 mph continue early this morning.

Impacts: the winds will cause wind chill values will drop into the minus 5 to minus 10 degree range. Visibilities could also be reduced to around a mile with the blowing snow.

Greater Kansas City Metro Area

Today: A 10 percent chance of light snow before noon. Cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny and cold, with a high near 14. Wind chill values between -1 and -6. Blustery, with a west northwest wind between 16 and 26 mph, with gusts as high as 36 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 2. Wind chill values between -7 and -12. West wind between 8 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 22 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.

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 which is in effect until 6 am CST Wednesday, December 9.

Another band of snow is expected to wrap back across east central Kansas and west central Missouri late Tuesday evening and early Wednesday morning. An additional 1 to 2 inches of snow is possible before it ends before sunrise.

In addition to the snow, blowing snow and bitterly cold wind chills are expected late tonight into Wednesday as strong northwesterly 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

Precipitation has moved out of Northeast Kansas, except for an occasional flurry or two. However, the winter weather storm has brought the area plenty of strong winds resulting in lots of blowing/drifting snow and freezing temperatures. KDOT crews continue to treat (with sand/salt mixture) and plow roadways throughout all of Northeast Kansas.

Roadways are again primarily snowpacked throughout the majority of northeast Kansas. Drivers need to use caution as they travel about on Wednesday, as roadways may be slick / icy due to the overnight freezing and blowing conditions.

Kansas City Metro Area Update: Johnson County - Highways are wet/slush to spots snowpacked – all lanes are visible; Leavenworth/Wyandotte Counties – Highways are mostly snowpacked – driving lane may be visible in most cases.

Topeka/Lawrence Metro Area Update: Highways are mostly snowpacked; driving lane may be visible in most cases.

Driver Safety Tips

For travel throughout today, 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 Spots Snowpacked (JO Co) to Mostly Snowpacked/Ice (LV/WY Co)	Yes
Topeka Metro Area (Shawnee County)	Partly to Mostly Snowpacked/Ice	No
Atchison County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice	No
Brown County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice	No
Doniphan County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice	No
Douglas County	Mostly Snowpacked/Ice	No
Jackson County	Mostly Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Jefferson County	Drifting	Yes
Lyon County	Spots Snowpacked/Ice & Drifting	Yes
Marshall County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice	No
Nemaha County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice	No
Osage County	Spots to Completely Snowpacked/Ice	No
Pottawatomie County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice	No
Riley County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice	No
Wabaunsee County	Mostly to Completely Snowpacked/Ice	No

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/511traffictravel.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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