



**For Northeast Kansas  
as of 6:00 a.m. CST  
Wednesday, February 2, 2011  
(UPDATED)**

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**Current Weather Forecast**

**Northeast Kansas, including Topeka/Lawrence Metro Area**

**Today:** Areas of blowing snow before noon. Mostly sunny and cold, with a high near 10. Wind chill values between -8 and -18. North wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

**Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around -9. Wind chill values between -15 and -20. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Thursday:** Sunny, with a high near 18. Wind chill values between -11 and -21. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Wind Chill Advisory**

MARSHALL-NEMAHA-BROWN-RILEY-POTTAWATOMIE-JACKSON-JEFFERSON-DICKINSON-GEARY-MORRIS-WABAUNSEE-SHAWNEE-LYON-OSAGE-INCLUDING THE CITIES OF...MARYSVILLE...HIAWATHA...MANHATTAN...ABILENE...JUNCTION CITY...TOPEKA...EMPORIA

**THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN TOPEKA HAS ISSUED A WIND CHILL ADVISORY WHICH REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL NOON CST TODAY.**

\* TIMING...WIND CHILLS OF NEAR 15 BELOW ZERO WILL CONTINUE THROUGH THE EARLY MORNING HOURS ON WEDNESDAY MORNING...AND WILL RETURN AGAIN WEDNESDAY EVENING INTO THURSDAY MORNING.

\* WINDS...NORTH WINDS OF 20 TO 25 MPH WITH GUSTS TO 30 MPH WILL CONTINUE INTO THE MORNING HOURS WEDNESDAY.

\* IMPACTS...BITTERLY COLD ARCTIC AIR COMBINED WITH THE BRISK NORTH WINDS WILL RESULT IN LOWEST WIND CHILL INDICES OF 15 TO 24 DEGREES BELOW ZERO TONIGHT THROUGH THE MORNING HOURS ON WEDNESDAY...AND AGAIN WEDNESDAY NIGHT INTO THURSDAY MORNING. FROSTBITE AND HYPOTHERMIA ARE POSSIBLE IF PRECAUTIONS ARE NOT TAKEN TO PROTECT EXPOSED SKIN FROM THE ELEMENTS.

A WIND CHILL ADVISORY MEANS THAT VERY COLD AIR AND STRONG WINDS WILL COMBINE TO GENERATE LOW WIND CHILLS. CONSIDER TAKING A WINTER STORM KIT ALONG IF YOU MUST TRAVEL TONIGHT.

EXPOSED SKIN CAN SUFFER FROM FROSTBITE IN A VERY SHORT TIME...SO DRESS ADEQUATELY. BE SURE TO WEAR LAYERED CLOTHING...A HAT...AND GLOVES TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM THE DANGERS OF FROSTBITE

**Greater Kansas City Metro Area**

**Today:** Areas of blowing snow before noon. Mostly sunny and cold, with a high near 11. Wind chill values between -7 and -17. North northwest wind between 10 and 17 mph, with gusts as high as 26 mph.

**Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around -6. Wind chill values between -8 and -18. North northwest wind 6 to 9 mph becoming west southwest.

**Thursday:** Sunny, with a high near 18. Wind chill values between -10 and -20. Southwest wind between 6 and 10 mph.

**Wind Chill Advisory**

LEAVENWORTH-WYANDOTTE-JOHNSON-DOUGLAS KS-CLINTON-PLATTE-CLAY-JACKSON-INCLUDING THE CITIES OF...LEAVENWORTH...OVERLAND PARK...OLATHE...PLATTSBURG...PARKVILLE...PLATTE CITY...WESTON...LIBERTY...EXCELSIOR SPRINGS...KANSAS CITY...INDEPENDENCE

**THE WIND CHILL ADVISORY IS NOW INEFFECT UNTIL NOON CST THURSDAY.**

\* LOCATIONS...EAST CENTRAL KANSAS AND WEST CENTRAL MISSOURI INCLUDING KANSAS CITY...HARRISONVILLE...PAOLA...BUTLER AND CLINTON.

\* TIMING...BITTERLY COLD WIND CHILLS COLDER THAN 15 BELOW ARE EXPECTED THIS MORNING AND AGAIN THURSDAY MORNING. WHILE WIND CHILL VALUES WILL IMPROVE SOMEWHAT THIS AFTERNOON...READINGS ARE STILL EXPECTED TO BE BELOW ZERO.

\* IMPACTS...DUE TO THE RECENT VERY HEAVY SNOWFALL AND CONTINUED BREEZY CONDITIONS...SOME BLOWING AND DRIFTING SNOW CAN STILL BE EXPECTED. THIS COMBINED WITH THE BITTERLY COLD WIND CHILLS COULD LEAD TO A POTENTIALLY LIFE THREATENING SITUATION SHOULD YOU BECOME STRANDED.

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...A WIND CHILL ADVISORY MEANS THAT VERY COLD AIR AND STRONG WINDS WILL COMBINE TO GENERATE LOW WIND CHILLS. THIS WILL RESULT IN FROST BITE AND LEAD TO HYPOTHERMIA IF PRECAUTIONS ARE NOT TAKEN. IF YOU MUST VENTURE OUTDOORS...MAKE SURE YOU WEAR A HAT AND GLOVES.

PRACTICE YOUR WINTER SAFETY RULES...KEEP A FLASHLIGHT...SHOVEL...FOOD AND WATER IN YOUR CAR IN CASE OF EMERGENCY. TRAVEL SHOULD BE AVOIDED AS PERSONS COULD BECOME STRANDED RESULTING IN A POTENTIALLY LIFE-THREATENING SITUATION.

IN CASE OF POSSIBLE POWER OUTAGES...PERSONS ARE URGED TO ENSURE AN AMPLE SUPPLY OF FOOD AND MEDICATION...AS WELL AS HAVING AN ALTERNATIVE HEAT SUPPLY READY. DO NOT RUN GENERATORS INDOORS TO PREVENT CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING. PROTECT YOUR WATER SUPPLY FROM ROZEN PIPES.

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**Current Road Conditions**

Currently roadway conditions across Northeast Kansas range from drifting to mostly to completely snowpacked throughout the region. *See the chart below for current roadway conditions for individual Northeast Kansas counties.* Road conditions improved slightly overnight as the winds did blow some of the snow off area roadways, so pavement is visible. However the blowing and drifting snow will continue to be an issue over the morning hours. Crews made great strides in plowing snow off the roadways overnight, though roads are still primarily snowpacked.

Drivers should use caution at the ramp areas as the snow is easily tending to drift back over the on- and off-ramps. Crews will continue to plow, plow, plow through the morning hours. Around 9-10 a.m. this morning, once the sun is out, crews will then evaluate whether to apply treatment (salt or salt/sand mix) to expedite melting on the roadways. Most salt is ineffective at temperatures below 15 degrees.

KDOT nighttime crews will switch out with daytime crews around 8 a.m. this morning. The nighttime crews will head home for some much needed rest.

We strongly encourage drivers to Stay Home, Stay Warm, Stay Safe today if at all possible! If drivers must travel today, they should allow extra time all day for their commutes, drive for the conditions on the roadways they are travelling on and use caution as roadways may be SLICK due to the snowpacked conditions. Also, we want to remind drivers not to “plow through” drifts as their chances of becoming stuck are very likely.

COUNTY/METRO AREA	CURRENT ROAD CONDITION
KC Metro Area (Johnson/Leavenworth/Wyandotte Counties)	Completely Snowpacked/Ice
Topeka Metro Area (Shawnee County)	Partly Snowpacked/Ice
Atchison County	Drifting to Spots Snowpacked/Ice
Brown County	Drifting to Spots Snowpacked/Ice

Doniphan County	Drifting to Spots Snowpacked/Ice
Douglas County	Partly Snowpacked/Ice
Jackson County	Mostly Snowpacked/Ice
Jefferson County	Mostly Snowpacked/Ice
Lyon County	Partly Snowpacked/Ice
Marshall County	Drifting to Spots Snowpacked/Ice
Nemaha County	Drifting to Spots Snowpacked/Ice
Osage County	Drifting to Completely Snowpacked/Ice
Pottawatomie County	Drifting to Spots to Completely Snowpacked/Ice
Riley County	Spots to Partly Snowpacked/Ice
Wabaunsee County	Drifting to Partly Snowpacked/Ice

### Current Road Closures for Northeast Kansas

[K-9 in Atchison/Jackson Counties](#) is **NOW CLOSED** from US-75 to the west junction of US-159 to all traffic! K-9 has been closed due to drifting conditions on the roadway as of 9:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 1.

[K-20 in Doniphan/Brown Counties](#) is **NOW CLOSED** from K-7 junction to Everest to all traffic! K-20 has been closed due to drifting conditions on the roadway as of 10:30 p.m., Tuesday, February 1.

[K-74 in Atchison County](#) is **NOW CLOSED** from the junction of US-73 to Potter to all traffic! K-74 has been closed due to drifting conditions on the roadway as of 6:15 p.m., Tuesday, February 1.

[K-99 in Marshall County](#) is **NOW CLOSED** from the east city limits of Beattie to the Nebraska state line for (approximately 12 miles) to all traffic! K-99 has been closed due to drifting conditions and a stalled semi off the roadway as of 6:15 p.m., Tuesday, February 1.

[K-120 in Doniphan County](#) is **NOW CLOSED** from US-36 to K-20 to all traffic! K-120 has been closed due to drifting conditions on the roadway as of 10:30 p.m., Tuesday, February 1.

[K-246 in Brown County](#) is **NOW CLOSED** from Sabetha to Morrill to all traffic! K-246 has been closed due to drifting conditions on the roadway as of 9:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 1.

[US-159 in Atchison County](#) is **NOW CLOSED** from two miles north of Effingham to Muscotah to all traffic! US-159 has been closed due to drifting conditions and several stalled vehicles on the roadway as of 6:15 p.m., Tuesday, February 1.

### 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](http://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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