



**For Northeast Kansas  
as of 2:00 p.m. CST  
Thursday, January 19, 2011**

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**Current Weather Forecast**

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

**This Afternoon:** Snow. High near 21. East wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. Total daytime snow accumulation of 1 to 3 inches possible.

**Tonight:** Snow. Low around 11. Wind chill values between -2 and 6. North wind between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. New snow accumulation of 3 to 5 inches possible.

**Thursday:** Cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 20. Wind chill values between -2 and 7. North wind around 10 mph.

**Winter Storm Warning**

MARSHALL-NEMAHA-BROWN-RILEY-POTTAWATOMIE-JACKSON-JEFFERSON-WABAUNSEE-SHAWNEE-DOUGLAS-OSAGE-FRANKLIN-INCLUDING THE CITIES OF...MARYSVILLE...HIAWATHA...MANHATTAN...TOPEKA...LAWRENCE...OTTAWA

**A WINTER STORM WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT FROM 9 AM THIS MORNING TO 6 AM CST THURSDAY.**

\* TIMING...SNOW WILL BEGIN THIS MORNING IN NORTH CENTRAL KANSAS...OVERSPREADING THE ENTIRE AREA BY MIDDAY TODAY. PEAK SNOWFALL RATES WILL OCCUR BETWEEN 3 PM AND 10 PM TODAY. SNOW WILL COME TO AN END THURSDAY MORNING.

\* TOTAL SNOW ACCUMULATIONS...5 TO 8 INCHES OF SNOW IS POSSIBLE IN THE WARNING AREA. SNOWFALL RATES MAY APPROACH ONE INCH PER HOUR LATER THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

\* WINDS...NORTHEAST WINDS AT 10 TO 15 MPH MAY CONTRIBUTE TO REDUCED VISIBILITIES AND MINOR DRIFTING.

\* IMPACTS...TRAVEL WILL BE DIFFICULT AND HAZARDOUS...PARTICULARLY DURING THE EVENING COMMUTE...WHEN SNOWFALL COULD BE AT ITS HEAVIEST.

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...THOSE WITH TRAVEL PLANS ARE ADVISED TO RECONSIDER...AND SHOULD USE EXTREME CAUTION IF TRAVEL IS UNAVOIDABLE.

**Greater Kansas City Metro Area**

**This Afternoon:** Snow. High near 23. Northeast wind between 6 and 9 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. Total daytime snow accumulation of 1 to 3 inches possible.

**Tonight:** Snow. Low around 14. North northeast wind around 9 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. New snow accumulation of 3 to 7 inches possible.

**Thursday:** A chance of snow before noon. Cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny, with a high near 19. North northwest wind around 9 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

**Winter Storm Warning**

ATCHISON KS-MIAMI-DONIPHAN-LEAVENWORTH-WYANDOTTE-JOHNSON KS-BUCHANAN-CLINTON-CALDWELL-PLATTE-CLAY-RAY-JACKSON-CASS-INCLUDING THE CITIES OF...ATCHISON...PAOLA...TROY...LEAVENWORTH...OVERLAND PARK...OLATHE...ST. JOSEPH...PLATTSBURG...HAMILTON...POLO...PARKVILLE...PLATTE CITY...WESTON...LIBERTY... EXCELSIOR SPRINGS...RICHMOND...KANSAS CITY...INDEPENDENCE...RAYMORE...HARRISONVILLE...PLEASANT HILL

**A WINTER STORM WARNING FOR HEAVY SNOW REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 6 AM CST THURSDAY.**

\* LOCATIONS IMPACTED BY THIS WARNING INCLUDE EASTERN KANSAS...AS WELL AS PORTIONS OF NORTHWESTERN AND WEST CENTRAL MISSOURI. THIS INCLUDES THE ENTIRE KANSAS CITY METROPOLITAN AREA. SOME CITIES THAT WILL BE IMPACTED BY HEAVY SNOW INCLUDE ST. JOSEPH...KANSAS CITY...OLATHE...ATCHISON... AND LEAVENWORTH.

\* TIMING...STEADY SNOW WILL SPREAD INTO EASTERN KANSAS AND FAR WESTERN MISSOURI BY MID AFTERNOON. SNOW IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE IN INTENSITY DURING EVENING COMMUTE...AND BECOME HEAVY AT TIMES THIS EVENING WITH SNOWFALL RATES OF AN INCH PER HOUR AT TIMES. SNOW WILL TAPER OFF BY THURSDAY MORNING.

\* SNOW ACCUMULATIONS BETWEEN 5 AND 8 INCHES ARE EXPECTED ALONG THE MISSOURI RIVER.

\* IMPACTS...DUE TO THE START TIME OF THE SNOW...THE EVENING COMMUTE WILL LIKELY BE IMPACTED. HEAVY SNOWFALL THIS EVENING MAY RESULT IN LONG DELAYS ON BOTH PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ROUTES...WITH TRAVEL TIMES TAKING THREE TO FOUR TIMES LONGER THAN USUAL. TRAVELERS SHOULD BEGIN TO PREPARE ALTERNATIVE TRAVEL PLANS OR ADJUST THEIR CURRENT TRAVEL PLANS TO ACCOMMODATE THE EXPECTED CONDITIONS.

\* OTHER IMPACTS...VISIBILITIES IN HEAVY SNOW MAY FALL BELOW ONE QUARTER MILE AT TIMES THIS EVENING.

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...A WINTER STORM WARNING MEANS SIGNIFICANT SNOW ACCUMULATIONS ARE EXPECTED THAT WILL GREATLY IMPACT TRAVEL. MOTORISTS SHOULD REMAIN ALERT TO CHANGING WEATHER CONDITIONS...AND TAKE NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS IF TRAVEL IS NECESSARY. CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE LATEST FORECASTS.

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**Current Road Conditions**

**KDOT crews are out plowing the accumulating snow and spot treating with salt or sand/salt mixture as needed on all Northeast Kansas roadways. All northeast Kansas counties are impacted by the current winter snow storm. See the chart below for current roadway conditions for individual northeast Kansas counties.**

**With falling snow forecasted throughout the afternoon/evening/overnight hours, KDOT crews will continue to primarily plow to keep pushing the accumulating snow off the roadways. Roadway conditions across northeast Kansas range from wet/slush (KC Metro Area only) to mostly to completely snowpacked conditions NOW.**

**Reports of slide-offs are occurring as roadways are SLICK! Drivers need to TAKE IT SLOW, use caution, allow extra time and drive for the current roadway conditions for their afternoon commutes.**

<b>COUNTY/METRO AREA</b>	<b>CURRENT ROAD CONDITION</b>
<b>KC Metro Area (Johnson/Leavenworth/Wyandotte Counties)</b>	<b>Wet/Slush</b>
<b>Topeka Metro Area (Shawnee County)</b>	<b>Completely Snowpacked/Icy</b>
<b>Atchison County</b>	<b>Mostly Snowpacked/Icy</b>
<b>Brown County</b>	<b>Mostly Snowpacked/Icy</b>
<b>Doniphan County</b>	<b>Partly Snowpacked/Icy</b>
<b>Douglas County</b>	<b>Partly Snowpacked/Icy</b>
<b>Jackson County</b>	<b>Completely Snowpacked/Icy</b>
<b>Jefferson County</b>	<b>Completely Snowpacked/Icy</b>
<b>Lyon County</b>	<b>Mostly Snowpacked/Icy</b>
<b>Marshall County</b>	<b>Completely Snowpacked/Icy</b>
<b>Nemaha County</b>	<b>Mostly Snowpacked/Icy</b>
<b>Osage County</b>	<b>Spots to Completely Snowpacked/Icy</b>
<b>Pottawatomie County</b>	<b>Completely Snowpacked/Icy</b>
<b>Riley County</b>	<b>Completely Snowpacked/Icy</b>
<b>Wabaunsee County</b>	<b>Completely Snowpacked/Icy</b>

## **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.*

## **Current Road Closures for Northeast Kansas**

No closed roads to report at this time.

## **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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