



For Northeast Kansas
11:00 p.m. CST
Saturday, March 20, 2010

Updates from around Kansas & neighboring states

Oklahoma: Oklahoma DOT reports at 8:51 p.m., CENTRAL/NE OK - Slick, hazardous roads, unnecessary travel discouraged. For morning travel, check conditions B4 U GO 888-425-2385 #oksnow

Current National Weather Service Forecast

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

Overnight: A 40 percent chance of snow. Cloudy, with a low around 25. Blustery, with a north wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Sunday: A 20 percent chance of snow before 1pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 39. Breezy, with a north wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 22. North wind between 5 and 10 mph.

WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY – UPDATED!

JEFFERSON-SHAWNEE-INCLUDING THE CITY OF...TOPEKA

THE WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY IS NOW IN EFFECT UNTIL 1 AM CDT SUNDAY.

Timing...snow will slowly taper off through the rest of tonight.

Total snow accumulations of 5 to 7 inches are expected from the event.

Winds...north winds of 15 to 20 mph will be possible early through tonight.

Impacts...snow combined with winds through tonight will reduce visibilities and make for hazardous travel conditions as snow blows across roadways

Precautionary/preparedness actions...wintry precipitation is forecast to accumulate in the affected areas causing hazardous driving conditions. Those with travel plans are advised to choose an alternate route...or should use extreme caution if travel is unavoidable.

Greater Kansas City Metro Area – UPDATED!

Overnight: Snow. Low around 32. North wind between 16 and 18 mph, with gusts as high as 26 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. Total nighttime snow accumulation of 1 to 3 inches possible.

Sunday: A chance of snow before 1pm, then a slight chance of rain and snow. Cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny, with a high near 38. North northeast wind between 14 and 18 mph, with gusts as high as 28 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%. New precipitation amounts of less than a tenth of an inch possible.

Sunday Night: Patchy fog after 1am. Otherwise, clear, with a low around 28. North wind between 6 and 13 mph.

WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY—UPDATED!

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

A WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY FOR SNOW REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 7 AM CDT SUNDAY.

Location...east central Kansas...west central into northeast Missouri...including the Kansas City metro area...Chillicothe and Kirksville.

Timing...light to moderate snow will continue over the area this evening with the snow gradually diminishing after midnight. The snow is expected to end by daybreak.

Snow accumulations...additional accumulations will be an inch or less to the northwest of interstate 35 with an additional 1 to 2 inches possible southeast of the interstate.

Impacts...roads will be slick and hazardous...especially southeast of Interstate 35. Snow and blowing snow will also reduce visibilities to less than a half mile to the southeast of Interstate 35.

Precautionary/preparedness actions...a winter weather advisory for snow means that periods of snow will cause primarily travel difficulties. Be prepared for snow covered roads and limited visibilities...and use caution while driving.

Current Road Conditions

Road conditions currently range from normal seasonal conditions to wet/slush to drifting to partly snowpacked throughout NE Kansas. Good news is that quite a few road conditions improved and returned to normal seasonal conditions. KDOT nighttime crews are now in and daytime crews have headed home. KDOT crews will continue to plow and treat (salt or salt/sand mixture) all roadways as needed throughout the overnight hours. *See the chart below for current roadway conditions for individual northeast Kansas counties.*

Highways, including mainline lanes, ramp areas, bridges and overpasses, may be slick due to the slushy and/or snowpacked/icy conditions throughout all NE Kansas counties. Blowing snow and gusting winds are causing drifting to occur, primarily on rural roadways. As temps drop overnight, drivers will need to watch for refreezing and/or icy spots on the roadways. Snow flurries may continue to fall throughout the overnight hours causing roadways to be snowpacked/icy in spots. **DRIVERS NEED TO USE CAUTION, TAKE IT SLOW AND ALLOW FOR EXTRA TIME DURING THE EVENING/OVERNIGHT HOURS.**

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	No
Topeka Metro Area (Shawnee County)	Normal Seasonal to Wet/Slush to Spots Snowpacked/Ice	No
Atchison County	Normal Seasonal to Spots Snowpacked/Icy	No
Brown County	Normal Seasonal to Spots Snowpacked/Icy	No
Doniphan County	Normal Seasonal to Spots Snowpacked/Icy	No
Douglas County	Spots to Mostly Snowpacked/Ice	No
Jackson County	Drifting to Normal Seasonal Conditions	Yes
Jefferson County	Partly to Mostly Snowpacked/Ice	No
Lyon County	Drifting to Partly Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Marshall County	Normal Seasonal Conditions	Yes
Nemaha County	Normal Seasonal to Spots Snowpacked/Icy	No
Osage County	Drifting to Partly Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Pottawatomie County	Normal Seasonal to Spots Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Riley County	Normal Seasonal Conditions	Yes
Wabaunsee County	Normal Seasonal to Drifting to Spots Snowpacked/Icy	Yes

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, 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/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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