



**For Northeast Kansas
12:00 a.m. Midnight CST
Sunday, February 21, 2010**

Updates from around Kansas & neighboring states

Oklahoma: As of 9:58 p.m., Oklahoma DOT advised DRIVERS - Please use caution tonight while driving, there's a dense fog advisory in central and western Okla. 'til 10 a.m. Sunday.

Current National Weather Service Forecast

Northeast Kansas, including Topeka/Lawrence Metro Area – UPDATED

Overnight: Occasional snow, freezing rain, and sleet. Low around 29. Northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. Little or no ice accumulation expected. Total nighttime snow and sleet accumulation of around an inch possible.

Sunday: Snow and freezing rain, becoming all snow after noon. High near 32. Breezy, with a north wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. Little or no ice accumulation expected. New snow accumulation of 3 to 5 inches possible.

Sunday Night: Snow likely, mainly before midnight. Cloudy, with a low around 19. Blustery, with a north wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible.

Monday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 28. North wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

WINTER STORM WARNING

REPUBLIC-WASHINGTON-MARSHALL-NEMAHA-BROWN-CLOUD-CLAY-RILEY-POTTAWATOMIE-JACKSON-JEFFERSON-OTTAWA-DICKINSON-GEARY-MORRIS-WABAUNSEE-SHAWNEE-INCLUDING THE CITIES OF...MARYSVILLE...HIAWATHA...CONCORDIA...CLAY CENTER...MANHATTAN...ABILENE...JUNCTION CITY...TOPEKA

A WINTER STORM WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 6 AM CST MONDAY.

Timing...an occasional mix or freezing rain...sleet and snow will occur across the entire area overnight. The precipitation should change over to snow across north central Kansas around 6am...with the change to snow spreading from west to east into northeast Kansas during the late morning and eventually into east central Kansas during the early afternoon.

Ice accumulations...there could be a band of a quarter to a half inch of ice accumulate across portions of east central Kansas. The most likely area would be along and south of the Kansas turnpike.

Snow accumulations...snowfall amounts of 6 to 9 inches will be possible across north central and northeast Kansas...along a line from Minneapolis to Hiawatha. 4 to 6 inches of snow and sleet is possible from council grove to Topeka...with 1 to 2 inches of snow and sleet on top of any ice accumulations across east central Kansas.

Winds...wind will pick up from the north at 15 to 20 mph will gust up to 35 mph by Sunday afternoon.

Impacts...icing across east central Kansas could cause damage to trees and power lines. Heavy snow with the winds may cause drifting across north central and northeast Kansas. The wintry precipitation will make for treacherous travel conditions

Precautionary/preparedness actions...a winter storm warning for heavy snow means severe winter weather conditions are expected or occurring. Significant amounts of snow are forecast that will make travel dangerous. Only travel in an emergency. If you must travel...keep an extra flashlight... food...and water in your vehicle in case of an emergency.

Greater Kansas City Metro Area – UPDATED

Overnight: Rain, freezing rain, and sleet. Low around 31. Northeast wind between 10 and 13 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. Total nighttime ice accumulation of less than a 0.1 of an inch possible. Total nighttime sleet accumulation of less than a half inch possible.

Sunday: Rain, freezing rain, and sleet before 9am, then snow and sleet between 9am and 3pm, then snow after 3pm. The snow could be heavy at times. High near 33. North northeast wind between 13 and 18 mph, with gusts as high as 28 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. New ice accumulation of 0.1 to 0.3 of an inch possible. New snow and sleet accumulation of 1 to 3 inches possible.

Sunday Night: Snow, mainly before midnight. Low around 21. North northwest wind between 14 and 18 mph, with gusts as high as 28 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80%. New snow accumulation of around an inch possible.

Monday: Cloudy, with a high near 29. North northwest wind between 9 and 14 mph, with gusts as high as 21 mph.

WINTER STORM WARNING

LEAVENWORTH-WYANDOTTE-PLATTE-CLAY-RAY-INCLUDING THE CITIES OF: LEAVENWORTH, PARKVILLE, PLATTE CITY, WESTON, LIBERTY, EXCELSIOR SPRINGS, RICHMOND

A WINTER STORM WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL MIDNIGHT CST SUNDAY NIGHT.

Location...this winter storm warning includes portions of eastern Kansas and west central Missouri including the northern half of the Kansas City metropolitan area.

Timing...precipitation in the form of snow mixing with sleet...and freezing rain is expected tonight and Sunday morning...transitioning to all snow Sunday afternoon. The snow will continue into Sunday evening, diminishing to flurries after midnight Sunday night. Blowing and drifting snow is also likely Sunday night.

Snow...sleet and ice accumulations...snow amounts tonight will be around an inch with accumulations of ice up to a tenth of an inch. Total ice accumulations may approach one quarter of an inch with sleet accumulations up to a half inch. Total snow accumulations of 4 to 6 inches are possible but a longer duration of sleet would reduce snow amounts.

Impacts...roads will likely become slick and hazardous with some blowing and drifting of the snow Sunday night.

Precautionary/preparedness actions...make sure you have an adequate supply of food. Check prescriptions to ensure an adequate supply of medicine through the duration of the storm. Check furnaces and fuel levels...and if travel is necessary...make sure your car is winterized and in good working order.

Current Road Conditions – UPDATED

Road conditions currently vary from normal seasonal (Marshall County only) to wet/slush to spots to completely snowpacked/icy throughout all northeast Kansas counties. Where snow/sleet is falling and/or has accumulated on the roadways (including Topeka/Lawrence and Kansas City Metro Areas), KDOT crews are plowing and treating (salt or salt/sand mixture) as needed and will continue to do so 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, are SLICK due to the sleet/snowpacked conditions. Slide-offs and/or accidents are still occurring in some areas due to slick conditions on the roadways.

Drivers are advised to stay home and stay off the roadways during the overnight hours due to slick/icy conditions. If travel is necessary, drivers need to use caution, TAKE IT SLOW, allow plenty of extra time, and stay a safe distance from other vehicles while travelling during the 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)	Wet/Slush	No
Atchison County	Mostly Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Brown County	Partly Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Doniphan County	Mostly Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Douglas County	Wet/Slush	No
Jackson County	Spots Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Jefferson County	Wet/Slush to Spots/Snowpacked/Ice	No
Lyon County	Spots to Completely Snowpacked/Ice	No
Marshall County	Normal Seasonal Conditions	No
Nemaha County	Partly Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Osage County	Wet/Slush to Spots to Partly Snowpacked/Ice	No
Pottawatomie County	Normal Seasonal Conditions to Mostly Snowpacked/Ice	No
Riley County	Partly to Mostly Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Wabaunsee County	Mostly to Completely Snowpacked/Ice	No

Current Road Closures for Northeast Kansas

No closed roads to report.

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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