



For Northeast Kansas
5:30 p.m. CST
Sunday, February 21, 2010

Updates from around Kansas & neighboring states

No updates at this time to report.

Current National Weather Service Forecast

Northeast Kansas, including Topeka/Lawrence Metro Area – UPDATED

Late Afternoon: Snow. High near 31. Blustery, with a north wind around 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. Total daytime snow accumulation of 3 to 5 inches possible.

Tonight: A 40 percent chance of snow, mainly before midnight. Cloudy, with a low around 19. Blustery, with a north wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Monday: Cloudy, with a high near 27. North wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY – UPDATED

WASHINGTON-MARSHALL-NEMAHA-BROWN-RILEY-POTTAWATOMIE-JACKSON-JEFFERSON-WABAUNSEE-SHAWNEE-DOUGLAS-INCLUDING THE CITIES OF: MARYSVILLE; HIAWATHA; MANHATTAN; TOPEKA; and LAWRENCE.

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN TOPEKA HAS ISSUED A WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY FOR SNOW AND BLOWING SNOW...WHICH IS IN EFFECT UNTIL MIDNIGHT CST TONIGHT. THE WINTER STORM WARNING HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

Timing...light snow will continue across northeast Kansas late this afternoon before tapering off this evening.

Snow accumulations...additional snowfall less than or equal to 1 inch is expected across northeast Kansas.

Winds...north winds of 15 to 20 mph with gust up to 30 mph are expected across the area the rest of the day.

Impacts...the combination of strong winds and fallen or falling snow may lead to reduced visibilities and cause blowing and drifting late this afternoon and tonight. Roadways may be slick and treacherous overnight. Low temperatures will fall into the upper teens.

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

Tonight: Snow likely, mainly before 9pm. Cloudy, with a low around 22. North northwest wind between 14

and 18 mph, with gusts as high as 26 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70%. Total nighttime snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible.

Monday: Cloudy, with a high near 28. North northwest wind between 10 and 14 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Monday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 14. West northwest wind between 6 and 10 mph.

WINTER STORM WARNING – UPDATED

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...the lower Missouri River valley region from the Kansas City metro east toward Carrollton and Moberly.

Timing...light snow has developed across the southwest parts of Kansas City...and was progressing east into the remainder of the city. Drier air has worked into the southern portions of the warned area...where light drizzle and freezing drizzle predominated. Light snow will affect the warned areas through the remainder of the afternoon...before tapering off to flurries by early this evening in eastern Kansas and western Missouri...and later in the evening towards central Missouri.

Accumulations...a significant glaze of ice...up to a quarter inch thick on elevated surfaces such as trees and power lines has been reported across the southern Kansas City metro...eastward along the Missouri River. Minor snow accumulations of up to an inch are expected on top of this ice accumulation for locations along and south of the Missouri River.

Impacts...icing has been most significant on elevated surfaces...and when combined with northeast winds of 15 to 20 mph...could lead to a few downed tree limbs and power lines. Untreated roads will remain slick and hazardous through tonight. Ice accumulating on exposed surfaces has caused sidewalks and parking lots to become slick...with ice becoming snow covered later today.

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 have improved throughout northeast Kansas during the late afternoon hours as the heavier snows have now moved out, leaving mostly light snow flurries. Currently roadway conditions range from wet/slushy to spots to completely snowpacked/icy (in a few areas) throughout northeast Kansas. Gusting winds are now causing blowing/drifting snow which is keeping the crews busy with continuous plowing on many roadways. *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 in spots due to the slushy and/or snowpacked/icy conditions. KDOT daytime crews are out busy plowing and treating (salt or salt/sand mixture) where needed. They will continue to do so throughout the daytime and early evening hours. KDOT staff will

determine how many nighttime crews may be needed based on the forecasted weather and/or current roadway conditions.

Roadways may be slick/icy overnight as the forecasted temperatures are expected to drop to the upper teens. Drivers need to use caution, TAKE IT SLOW, allow plenty of extra time, and stay a safe distance from other vehicles while travelling throughout the evening and 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	Yes
Topeka Metro Area (Shawnee County)	Wet/Slush	Yes
Atchison County	Mostly Snowpacked/Ice	No
Brown County	Mostly Snowpacked/Ice	No
Doniphan County	Mostly Snowpacked/Ice	No
Douglas County	Wet/Slush	No
Jackson County	Completely Snowpacked/Ice	No
Jefferson County	Completely/Snowpacked/Ice	No
Lyon County	Normal Seasonal Conditions	Yes
Marshall County	Spots Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Nemaha County	Mostly Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Osage County	Normal Seasonal Conditions	Yes
Pottawatomie County	Spots to Partly Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Riley County	Wet/Slush to Spots Snowpacked/Ice	Yes
Wabaunsee County	Spots to Partly to Completely Snowpacked/Ice	Yes

Current Road Closures for Northeast Kansas

No closed to 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/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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