



Driving Safely During Winter In Kansas

It's winter in Kansas and, while we've already had some crazy driving conditions, there's still a lot of the season left. It's likely that between now and spring, we'll see more difficult driving days in our future.

If you haven't done so already, be sure your vehicle is packed with a winter weather survival kit. It should include a first aid kit, a blanket and/or heavy clothing, flashlights, an ice scraper and shovel, jumper cables, matches and candles or flares, non-perishable food, a tow rope or chain, and don't forget some sand or kitty litter for traction in case you get stuck.



Planning ahead is key to safe driving. Before hitting the road, call 511 or visit KanDrive.gov for road conditions.

If you can postpone your plans for when the roads are safer, that's always your best option. But if not, here's a few tips to help stay safe:

- Ensure your tires are properly inflated and not too worn
- Check your wipers to ensure they are in good working order
- Have at least a half tank of fuel
- Fully charge your cell phone in case of emergency
- Clear your windshield and windows completely to ensure you can see everything happening around you
- Drive slowly and stop slowly
- Increase your following distance
- Plan your route ahead of time to avoid closed or snow packed roads
- Avoid risky behaviors such as texting or talking on the phone
- And, of course, BUCKLE UP!

Finally, be sure someone knows when you are leaving for your destination and

approximately when you should arrive. Taking a few extra steps in planning can go a long way towards keeping you and others on the road safe!

- Jodi Pew, Traffic Safety Specialist

DRIVE TO ZERO DAY AT THE CAPITOL

FEB. 12, 2025 **DRIVE TO ZERO** DAY AT THE CAPITOL



DRIVE TO ZERO
KANSAS TRAFFIC DEATHS

Hear from state agencies and elected officials on how we can save lives on Kansas roads.



Kansas State Capitol

2nd Floor Rotunda
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

AGENDA

- 9:00 a.m. Event Begins
- 9:30 a.m. Media Event
- 10:15 a.m. Open House and Networking
- 12:00 p.m. Event Adjourns

DRIVE TO ZERO
KANSAS TRAFFIC DEATHS

Traffic Safety Minutes for Staff Meetings

PACKING AN EMERGENCY KIT

Always keep an emergency kit handy and in winter, make sure to include:

- 1 First-aid kit
- 2 Flashlight with extra batteries
- 3 Rags, paper towels or pre-moistened wipes
- 4 Drinking water/snacks for everyone in the car (including pets)
- 5 Warm gloves, clothes, hats and blankets
- 6 Basic toolkit including duct tape and warning devices (such as flares or reflective triangles)
- 7 Ice scraper/snow brush
- 8 Jumper cables/jump pack
- 9 Traction aids (sand/salt/non-clumping cat litter)
- 10 Mobile phone and car charger
- 11 Winter windshield washer solvent
- 12 Tarp, raincoat and gloves
- 13 Shovel



Driving Tips During Wintry Conditions

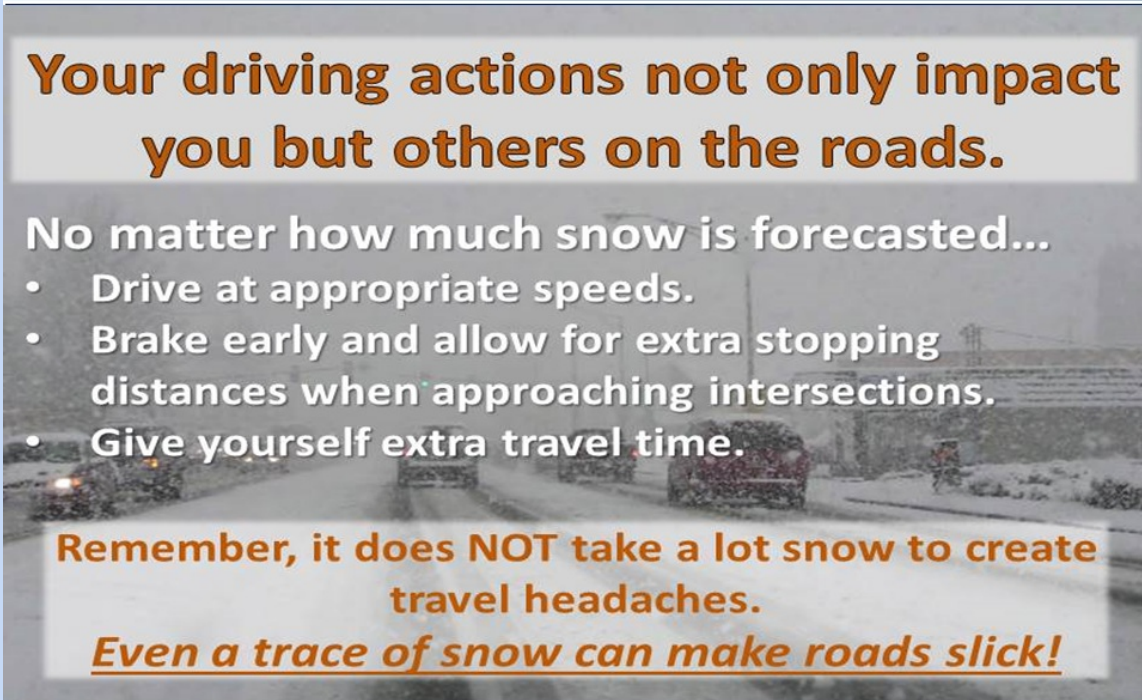
Your driving actions not only impact you but others on the roads.

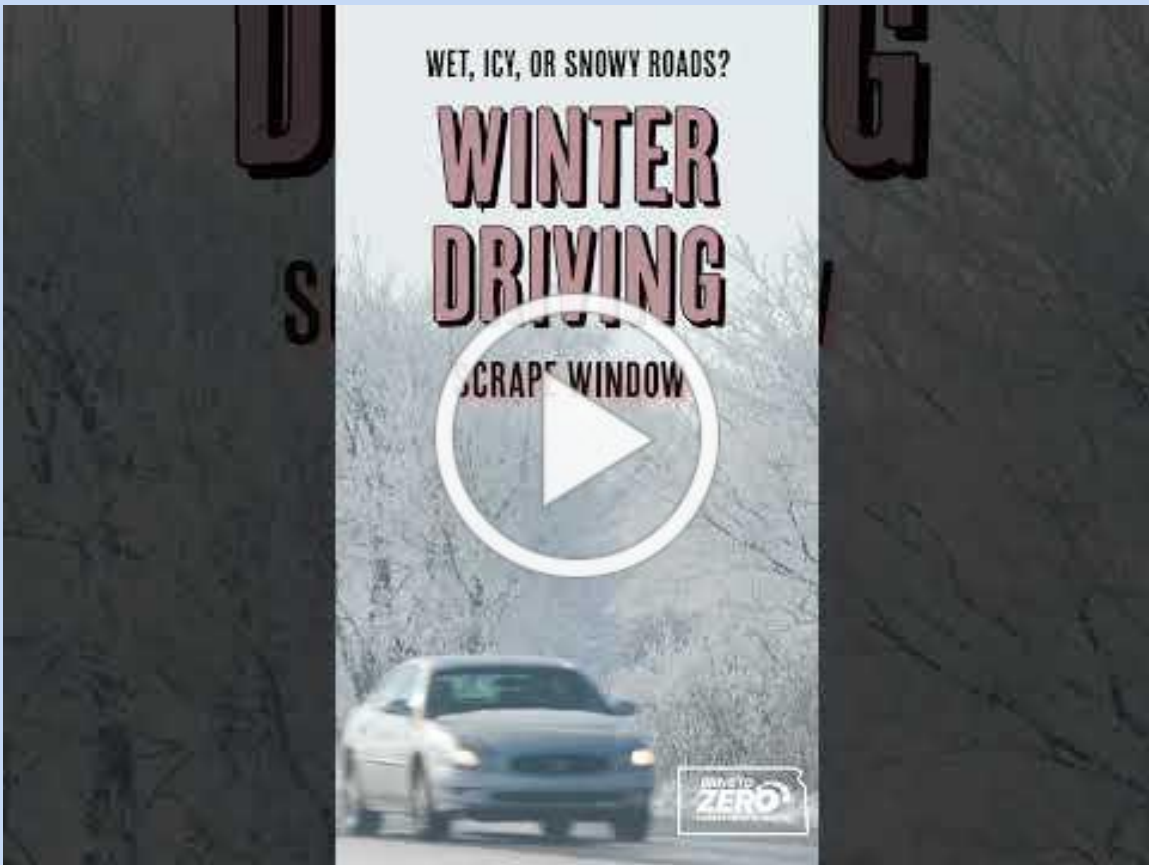
No matter how much snow is forecasted...

- Drive at appropriate speeds.
- Brake early and allow for extra stopping distances when approaching intersections.
- Give yourself extra travel time.

Remember, it does NOT take a lot snow to create travel headaches.

Even a trace of snow can make roads slick!





Tips For New Drivers

Do you have a new driver in the household? It's an exciting time, but also a time filled with lots of learning for the new drivers.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has put together a great list of tips to help give those new drivers a great start!

Tip #1: Be the example your children need. If *you* refrain from using a cell phone while driving, buckle up your seat belt and respect others on the road, your teenager will follow your example.

Tip #2: Choose the appropriate car. A newer car may have better safety features and airbags than an older model. Larger cars offer more protection in a crash, and your teen may be a bit less tempted to rev the engines for a race.

Tip #3: Practice makes a (nearly) perfect driver. No one becomes good at something after doing it for just a few hours. Your child needs at least two hours of practice driving each week for six months to reach a level of proficiency.

Tip #4: Limit nighttime driving. Reduced visibility at night makes nighttime driving much more challenging for inexperienced drivers.

Tip #5: Have the impaired driving talk. Talk with your child *before* he or she gets a license. If your teen were to consume *any* alcohol or other drugs before getting behind the wheel, they would be engaging in impaired driving. In addition to warning them about the risks of crashes and fatalities, make sure your child knows the legal and economic consequences of disobeying the law.

Tip #6: The dangers of texting. Hundreds of people die every month because a driver got distracted while behind the wheel. Teach your child to keep their eyes on the road and their minds focused.

Tip #7: Prepare them for the weather. Snow? Black ice? Heavy rains? Teach your child to know how to handle the common (and even uncommon!) situations that arise on the roads in your area.

Tip #8: Don't drive while drowsy. Fatigued drivers are dangerous drivers. Encourage your teen to balance their activities and get enough rest.

Tip #9: Keep an eye on maintenance. If your teenager knows how to test tire pressure, check essential fluids and change a flat tire, they'll be safer on the roadway.

Tip #10: Yes, they have to buckle up.

And don't forget, KTSRO has loads of materials available to help those new drivers (and their families!) be safer on the road, too! Just visit us at



Traffic Safety in Kansas

30th Annual KDOT Transportation Safety Conference



March 4-5, 2025

Hyatt Regency, 400 West Waterman Street, Wichita, KS

Keynote:

Chuck Marohn, President Strong Towns "Transportation for a Strong Town"

Lunch Plenary:

William Van Tassel AAA Manager, Driver Training Programs

"Modern Driver Education: Going Beyond the "Rules of the Road" to Support the Safe System Approach"

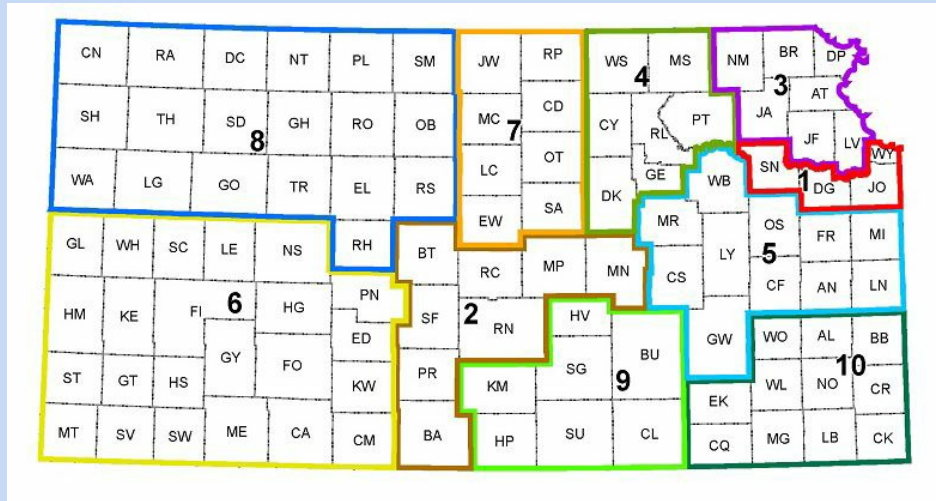
Lunch Plenary:

Todd Linder and Amy Ruiz - The Fatal Consequences of Distracted Driving: Remembering Cassy

Other sessions:

- Driver's Education Panel-Addressing the Teen Driver
- What are Traffic Safety Culture Strategies?
- How Public Health Professionals Can Contribute to Traffic Safety Initiatives
- Scene by Scene: The Journey from Crash Response to Care in Rural Kansas
- We Have a Plan, Now What?" Implementing Local Transportation Plans
- Collaborating for Safer Steets; WAMPO's Journey to Securing an SS4A Grant and Building the ICT Safe Coalition
- Strong Towns Charles Marohn "How to be an Advocate for Safer Streets in Your town
- Advanced Driver Assistance Systems: Technology's Role in Achieving Safer Vehicles
- Leveraging User Data to Optimize Corridor Safety
- Current KDOT Innovative Information Deployment
- Plus Regional Breakout sessions and exhibits

[Read More](#)



Home - Kansas Rides | Kansas Public Transportation

Kansas Rides is for Kansas Public Transportation across the entire state of Kansas. Find information about public transportation in all 105 Kansas counties.

[Read More](#)

FREE Safe Driving Resources



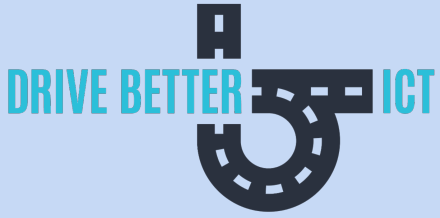
The Kansas Traffic Safety Resource Office offers you FREE traffic safety brochures, posters, flyers, and giveaway items.

We can bring FREE safe driving programs directly to your community organization or workplace.

[Visit Our Website - ktsro.org](http://ktsro.org)

[CLICK HERE Drive Better ICT In English](#)

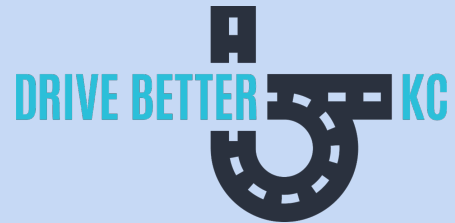
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2024 Kansas Traffic Crash Deaths

3444  **11.1%**



KANSAS HIGHWAY PATROL



Kansas
Department of Transportation

Compared to 1/1/23 - 12/31/23
Preliminary data as of 1/21/25

Driver Safety Programs

[Click Here for a List of Drivers Education Schools in Kansas](#)

TRB Employer-Based Traffic Safety Programs

National Safety Council Online Defensive Driving Courses



KANSAS Traffic Safety Resource OFFICE

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Kansas Traffic Safety Resource Office
ktsro.org | 800-416-2522 | ktsro@dccca.org

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