

State of emergency declared, schools close, due to winter storm

(MSC News)--Kansas officials are urging drivers to stay off the roads because of dangerous conditions across much of the state.

Gov. Jeff Colyer declared a state of emergency because of the winter storm moving across Kansas on Sunday that is creating blizzard conditions and slick roads. A section of Interstate 70 was closed Sunday morning between Salina and Wakeeny.

Colyer says travelers should consider delaying their trips until after the storm passes if possible. Anyone who must be on the road, should consult 511 road conditions hotlines and make sure their gas tank is full and cell phone fully charged.

Kansas highways, including local portions of U.S. 36, closed Sunday due to the weather, while local roadways were also shut down.

In Atchison County, the Kansas Department of Transportation closed all eastbound/westbound State & Federal Highways, while all eastbound/westbound county roads were also closed, according to Atchison County Emergency Management.

The same decision regarding highways was made in other nearby counties, including Doniphan, Jackson and Nemaha. Doniphan County Emergency Management Coordinator Julie Meng, late Sunday, said county roads are impassable.

In neighboring Missouri, Interstate 29 is closed near the Iowa border. Officials say additional road closures are likely during the storm.

Although the blizzard conditions are forecast to taper off into the evening hours, authorities continue to report dangerous travel conditions, and urge motorists to avoid travel, if possible.

The winter weather has also led to numerous school cancellations for Monday, November 26. For a list of closings, go [here](#).