



Bureau of Transportation Information
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NEWS RELEASE

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511 Traveler Information Improved for Summer Travels

With Memorial Day weekend and the summer travel season nearly here, the Kansas Department of Transportation is pleased to offer improved travel information resources to help travelers plan their trips and as they travel.

The Kansas 511 Advanced Traveler Information System and <http://511.ksdot.org> can help make trips safer and less frustrating. Call 511 anytime from any phone in Kansas or 1-866-511-KDOT (5368) from anywhere in the U.S. to find out about the latest driving conditions, construction detours, and travel weather information for the Kansas Turnpike and any Interstate, U.S. or state highway in Kansas and Nebraska. Phone numbers for road conditions in other states surrounding Kansas are also provided. A phone number is also provided for Motor Carrier Information such as registration, permits and credentials. Information is free from a landline phone; however, for cellular phone users, cell minutes may apply but there should be no roaming fee.

With weather updates every 15 minutes, Kansas 511 can be a resource to help travelers learn about changing weather conditions.

With summer being the height of road construction projects, summer travelers may encounter work zones or detours. By calling 511 before traveling, callers can find out if their routes are impacted by road work and make other plans as needed.

The Kansas 511 phone system has recently been enhanced. Callers may now indicate the direction they are traveling to hear route reports given in the direction they are traveling. New

landmark descriptions should make route descriptions easier for callers to understand or locate on a map. The menu has also changed so callers who want information for Nebraska can select number 7 for information in other states.

Road condition and work zone information is supplied by KDOT crews across the state. The same information is also available on KDOT's 511 Web page at <http://511.ksdot.org> or through KDOT's main web site, www.ksdot.org, under "Road Conditions."

Still camera views at eight locations on Kansas highways were added earlier this spring to the 511 Web page. The images are updated several times per hour. To view the images, click on the camera link at the top of the 511 Traveler Information Web page. Those using Internet Explorer as their browser can also access the images by clicking on the camera icons on the road condition map.

In the Kansas City area, travelers can visit the Kansas City Scout Web site at www.kcscout.org for camera views and incident and message board information for many interstates in the Kansas City area. A link is also provided from this site back to the statewide Web page by selecting "Links" at the top of the page and then selecting "Transportation Resources" – "Kansas Department of Transportation" – and "Closed Roads and Driving Conditions."

Travelers can also use their handheld mobile devices, such as Smartphones or Blackberries to access a text report for construction project information by visiting <http://511mm.ksdot.org>.

This travel season, KDOT reminds travelers to stay informed, wear their seat belts and watch out for motorcyclists.

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This information can be made available in alternative accessible formats upon request. For information about obtaining an alternative format, contact the Bureau of Transportation Information, 700 SW Harrison St., 2nd Fl West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice) (TTY).