



# Winter Storm Survival

***If at all possible, listen to weather reports and get off the road before a winter storm strikes.***

***Prepare for Kansas winters by keeping a mini survival kit in your vehicle, including the following items at a minimum:***

- |                    |                       |                           |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Cellular phone  | 7. Ice scraper        | 13. Extra winter clothing |
| 2. Red flag        | 8. Shovel             | 14. Blankets              |
| 3. Fusees/flares   | 9. Sand or cat litter | 15. Non-perishable food   |
| 4. Matches/lighter | 10. Traction mats     | 16. Can opener            |
| 5. Flashlight      | 11. Tow rope or chain | 17. First Aid Kit         |
| 6. Candles         | 12. Jumper cables     | 18. Metal coffee cans     |

***If you become stranded in a winter storm:***

- ◆ **Do not panic** – Always work slowly to avoid overexertion. Attempting to push a vehicle or shovel even small amounts of snow may lead to a heart attack.
- ◆ **Stay in your vehicle** – Do not attempt to find help by walking. You can quickly become disoriented in blowing and drifting snow. Your car provides the best protection from the weather and you are more likely to be discovered by highway maintenance crews or law enforcement officers if you remain in your car.
- ◆ **Keep fresh air circulating** – Carbon monoxide can build up in a tightly closed vehicle, especially one sealed by blowing or drifting snow. Run the motor sparingly and open only the downwind window to provide proper ventilation.
- ◆ **Keep active** – Clap your hands and move your arms and legs vigorously from time to time to stimulate circulation, relieve muscle tension and help keep you awake.
- ◆ **Turn on your dome light** – The light will help you observe others in the car and make your car visible to passersby.
- ◆ **Do not permit all occupants of the vehicle to sleep at the same time.**

***If you're stranded, call for help on your cell phone:***

- ◆ If you're on an interstate, U.S. or Kansas highway, call \*47. If you're on the Kansas Turnpike, call \*KTA (582). Use these numbers to report an emergency, accident, vehicle breakdown, erratic driver, or criminal activity.
- ◆ If you have difficulty reaching these numbers, call 911.
- ◆ If you're stranded on a highway in the Kansas City, Topeka or Wichita areas, the Kansas Highway Patrol Motorist Assist Program (MAP) will send a service vehicle to help. MAP provides only basic services necessary for the safety of stranded motorists and roadway traffic.
- ◆ **Call 511 or 1-866-511-KDOT (5368) for road condition and weather information.**