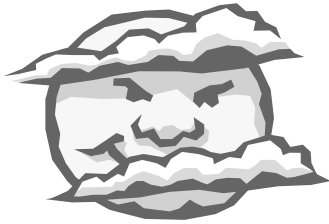

Suggestions for survival kits to carry in your vehicle:

SPRING/SUMMER

First aid kit
Battery powered radio, flashlight & extra batteries
Non-perishable food items
Bottled water
Sturdy shoes & work gloves
Rubber boots

FALL/WINTER

First aid kit
Battery powered radio, flashlight & extra batteries
Non-perishable food items
Bottled water
Sleeping bag or heavy blanket
Metal coffee cans
Matches/lighter
Candles
Shovel
Tow rope or chain
Extra clothing
Jumper cables
Ice scraper with snow brush
Traction mats, sand or cat litter
Red flag to tie to your antenna



DEFINITIONS

Watch: Threatening weather is possible in your area. Remain alert for approaching storms.

Warning: Threatening weather has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. Seek shelter!

Information for this brochure was obtained from:

*Riley County Police Department,
National Weather Service,
Kansas Department of Transportation,
and the Kansas Farm Bureau Safety Division.*



Kansas Farm Bureau

Safety & Ag Education Division
2627 KFB Plaza
Manhattan, Kansas 66503

Phone: 785/587-6000
Fax: 785/587-6914
www.kfb.org

Driver Safety



The information provided in this pamphlet is to help insure your personal safety. Please keep this in the glove box of your vehicle.

SPRING/SUMMER WEATHER

Flash Flooding -


Keep your vehicle fueled when flash flood watches or warnings are issued. If electric power is cut off due to flooding, gas stations may not be able to operate pumps.

Stay away from areas that are subject to flooding. That includes dips, low spots, canyons, washes, etc.

Avoid already flooded and high velocity flow areas. Do not attempt to cross flowing streams.

Be aware that the road bed may not be intact under flood waters. Turn around and take an alternate route.

NEVER drive through flooded roadways. Buoyancy is a big factor. Rapidly rising water may engulf the vehicle and its occupants and sweep them away. Two feet of water will carry away most automobiles. If you encounter roadways that are flooded and there is no way out or your vehicle stalls, leave the vehicle IMMEDIATELY and seek higher ground. Remember, it's better to be wet than drowned!



Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood dangers.

Flash floods are the number one weather killer. Nearly HALF of all flash flood fatalities are auto related!

Tornado Safety -

Myth: You can outrun a tornado in your car.

Fact: Don't bet your life on it! A tornado is unpredictable; you don't know which way it's going to go, or how fast. If you're in your car and a tornado is near, get away from the car and lie in a ditch or low area, protecting your head with your hands. Be sure the area you take cover in is not conducive to flash flooding that can appear during a tornadic thunderstorm.

Be aware of weather reports. If you are unable to obtain current weather information, be aware of environmental clues such as dark, often greenish sky, wall clouds, large hail, damaging winds and a loud roar; similar to a freight train.

FALL/WINTER WEATHER

While driving, tune your radio to local commercial radio stations for updated weather and road condition reports. When traveling the interstate system in Kansas, you may also obtain weather and road reports from weather radio receivers located in many interstate rest areas or by calling either 511 or 1-866-511-KDOT (5368).

If traveling on Kansas highways and you become stranded in a snow storm, do not attempt to find help by walking. You can quickly become disorientated 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 to help keep you awake.

TURN ON YOUR DOME LIGHT. The light will help you to observe passengers in your car and make your car visible to passersby.

IF YOU HAVE PASSENGERS, DO NOT PERMIT ALL OCCUPANTS TO SLEEP AT THE SAME TIME! Someone needs to be aware of changing conditions, road crews, etc.

PERSONAL PROTECTION

When approaching your vehicle in a parking lot, walk with purpose and stay alert. Have your key ready in your hand. Look around and inside the car before getting in.

Inform others of when you plan to leave and when you intend to return. Make sure someone knows the exact route you are traveling. Your office should know the color, make, model and tag number of your vehicle for emergency purposes.

Keep your doors locked and windows rolled up, no matter how short the distance or how safe the area.

Be aware of your surroundings when you slow down or stop, such as garages, parking lots, intersections, gas stations, car washes, highway entry and exit ramps, ATMs and rest stops.

If it is absolutely necessary to stop at a rest stop, be sure to stop close to the building and where the majority of travelers are located. Try to avoid entering areas where your view can be obstructed by trees or bushes.

Don't stop to assist a stranger whose car has broken down. Instead, help by driving to the nearest phone and calling the Sheriff's department, Highway Patrol or Police. Likewise, if you experience car trouble, stay in the vehicle. Never hitch hike or walk to get assistance. Carry an envelope in the glove box with sufficient change and three phone numbers. If someone stops to offer help, pass the envelope through the window and ask them to call one of the numbers for assistance. If you have a cellular phone, dial *47 or *KTA for highway patrol assistance. The call is free.

Always carry heavy items in the trunk or put a seat belt through the handle of an item, such as brief cases, handbags, etc. Never use your vehicle for a trash can! Throw all empty cans and bottles away as soon as possible. These items can become flying debris in the event of an accident, leading to possible injury.

Park in well-lighted areas, near sidewalks or walk ways. Avoid parking near dumpsters, woods, large vans or trucks, or anything else that limits your visibility.

Never leave valuables in plain view, even if the car is locked. Put them in the trunk out of sight.

If a carjacker threatens you with a gun or other weapon, give up your car! Don't argue. Your life is worth more than the car. Get away as quickly as possible and contact the police immediately.