

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET transportation.ky.gov

Andy Beshear Governor Jim Gray Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rain and Snow Across the Commonwealth Expected to Impact Morning Commute on Tuesday

Freezing overnight temperatures likely to cause slick driving conditions

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Feb. 12, 2024) – Kentucky snowfighters from Paducah to Pikeville are once again preparing for inclement weather. Rain is expected this afternoon, and by evening, the precipitation is forecasted to change to snow. Slushy road conditions are possible tonight and slick conditions are likely by Tuesday morning. Kentucky motorists are advised to reduce speeds and drive without distractions.

"The National Weather Service is observing a storm cell that has been evolving over the weekend and even today," said Gov. Andy Beshear. "Our dedicated Team Kentucky highway crews are monitoring the weather and taking proactive steps to keep us safe on the roads. With rain and snow expected today, Kentuckians are asked to drive with caution, especially on their morning commute tomorrow."

The National Weather Service has advised that a storm system is likely to bring rain and scattered thunderstorms before transitioning to snow late in the afternoon and continuing into the evening. Although temperatures are currently above freezing, they are expected to dip overnight and allow for snow accumulation up to 4 inches in some areas of the state. Although ground temperatures are predicted to be at or even above freezing for most of the day, slush may form in areas where snowfall occurs.

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet staff and our contracted crews will monitor the weather and make region-specific plans to address hazardous conditions. Drivers are asked to only drive if necessary, as fewer cars on the road help everyone stay safe on the road.

"The warmer temperatures we've been enjoying over the last several days are going to help road crews push the snow," said KYTC Secretary Jim Gray. "However, the warmer temperatures and snow accumulations can still create slick driving conditions. Drive with caution, reduce your speeds, and operate your vehicle distraction-free."

KYTC maintains most roads, streets and bridges that are part of the State Highway System, including interstates, parkways, and U.S. route designations. KYTC operates on a four-tier priority system to keep people and commerce moving in the most effective way.

Safe Driving Tips

- Buckle-up, put the phone down
- Reduce speed
- Give snowplows plenty of room on the road
- Keep a distance of at least three car lengths from the car in front of you
- Alter travel plans to avoid driving during the peak of weather activity.
- Pay attention to weather advisories and allow more time to travel for routine commutes.
- Slow down when approaching intersections, off-ramps, bridges or shaded areas. Watch for "black ice" a thin coating of clear ice that can form on the pavement surface that may be difficult to see.

Visit <u>snowky.ky.gov</u> for snow and ice resources, like priority route maps, tips and highway district updates.

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Editors Note: <u>Click here</u> for broll footage of KYTC crews in action. <u>Click here</u> for a video on what to pack in an emergency car kit.

