



## Kingman County Emergency Management

Fred Simon, Emergency Manager

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### **Be prepared during holiday travel season**

The weather has cooled, the leaves are changing and the holiday travel season will soon be here.

No one knows what this winter may bring for winter weather and storms but no one wants to be caught traveling in adverse weather. A vehicle disaster kit can help keep you and your family safe should you become stranded.

Your winter vehicle disaster kit should include: jumper cables; flashlight and extra batteries; first aid kit; tire repair kit; air pump; flares or warning triangles and fluorescent distress flag; bottled water; food items containing protein, such as nuts and energy bars; AM/FM radio to listen to traffic reports and emergency messages; cat litter or sand for tire traction; shovel; ice scraper; snow brush; warm clothes, gloves, hat, sturdy boots, jacket and extra change of clothes; blankets or sleeping bags. Also have a fully-charged cellular phone and charger; a basic toolkit; and pet and baby supplies if applicable.

If you are stranded, run your engine for 10 to 15 minutes every hour. Be sure your vehicle's exhaust remains clear of any snow and debris and keep a window cracked open when the engine is running. The exhaust system may be damaged, especially if the vehicle slid off the road.

Be prepared for an emergency by keeping your gas tank full and if you find yourself stranded, put on your flashers and call for help.

“You should also stay with your vehicle,” said Kingman County Emergency Manager Fred Simon. “Your chances of being found are far greater. Plus your vehicle gives you shelter from the elements.”

Checking the weather forecast before traveling is important, he added.

“Delaying or canceling travel plans may be the best option,” he said.

Travelers can check current road conditions in Kansas by calling 5-1-1 or by logging on to [511.ksdot.org](http://511.ksdot.org). Let your emergency contact know your travel plans. Please use caution when traveling and have a safe and happy holiday season.

Follow Kingman County Government on Facebook for more safety tips throughout the holiday season ([www.facebook.com/KingmanCountyGovernment](http://www.facebook.com/KingmanCountyGovernment)).

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