

Emergency Situations



Dealing with roadside dilemmas.

It can happen to anyone. Any where. Any time. An accident. A breakdown. Don't panic. Stay calm and follow these suggestions.

Prepare for the unforeseen.

The old Scout motto, "Be Prepared," applies to driving. Keep flares, flashlights, blankets and a first aid kit in the vehicle. Mobile phones become valuable safety tools during breakdown situations. Carry water if it's hot, especially for children and pets. Know where your spare tire, jack and other tools are in the vehicle and know how to use them.

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Breakdowns

- First and foremost, do not leave your vehicle stopped in a traffic lane. Get off the road if at all possible.
- Be especially careful at night when there is a greater chance of being hit from behind.
- Be sure you're far enough off the road that you can open the door without stepping into traffic.
- Turn on your emergency flashers.
- Raise your vehicle's hood. This nationally-recognized distress sign communicates your need for assistance.
- Display any signs you may have that indicate you need help (like a sun shade with a "Help" message).
- If you have a cell phone, use it. If not, remain with your vehicle. It's likely another motorist will report your problem to the police. Avoid getting into a car with a stranger.
- If you must leave your vehicle, write a note. Leave your name, a phone number and name of a person to contact, the time and day you left, and which direction you are walking.

Accidents

- Stop the car immediately. If possible, apply first aid to any injured persons, but do not move them unless absolutely necessary.
- Call for help.
- Get the other driver's license number, vehicle registration number, name, address and insurance company name and policy number. Provide the other driver the same information about yourself.
- By law, you must report to the police any accident resulting in injury, death or property damage of more than \$500.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Use your cell phone to reach the Kansas Highway Patrol by dialing *47. On the Kansas Turnpike, dial *KTA.

Remember, being prepared for emergencies on the road will go a long way toward making...



A program of the Kansas Department of Transportation

For more information contact the KDOT Bureau of Traffic Safety at 785-296-3756 or on the Web at www.kanroad.org