

New Weight Limits on Roads

Minnesota's Truck Weight 2018 Education Program

Minnesota Assn. of Townships

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A Minnesota educational project to safeguard public roadways through voluntary vehicle weight compliance

NOTES

Reasons for Education and Compliance

- New legislation authorizing additional weights and increased "permitted" loads
- Increasing truck traffic on local routes
- Concerns from local County City and Township road authorities
- More requests for truck weight enforcement to monitor compliance of new regulations

Damage Factors

- A 20% single axle overload (3600 pounds) does over two times the damage as a legally loaded 18,000 pound single axle
- A 20% tandem overload (6800 pounds) causes 2.25 times the damage as a legal tandem of 34000 pounds

Asphalt Cost

- Replacing or reconditioning of an asphalt roadway can vary from \$350,000. to \$850,000 per mile depending on reconstruction costs.
- Preparation costs can vary
- Road weight specifications (5-ton 9-ton) costs will vary depending on the amount of material needed.

Legislation impacting township roads:

- Timber Industry
- Dairy Industry
- Agricultural Industry
- Construction Materials

Forest Products: Include

- Wood Chips
- Paper
- Pulp
- Oriented Strand Board
- Laminated Strand Lumber
- Hardboard
- Treated Lumber
- Untreated Lumber
- Barrel Staves

Forest Products

Forest Products transportation during the summer 5 axle non-permit example

Example: tandem weight 34,000# + 5% = 35,700#

Forest Products transportation during the winter (WLI) 5 axle non-permit example

The 5% increase will no longer be allowed if the vehicle gross weight is exceeded.

Permit for 6 axle Forest Products

- The Dept. of Transportation permit costs \$300 per power unit and can use various trailers
- Trucks must comply with seasonal axle load restrictions
- Trucks must obey bridge postings
- Trucks must comply with any other authorized road posting
- Authorized on I-35 milepost 235.4 to 259.5 only near Duluth.

Forest Products 6 Axle Permit Weights

- 6 axle trucks traveling by the most direct route to the nearest (paved) 10 ton route:
 - ✓ May operate with a transportation permit on any highway with gross weights up to 90,000 pounds during regular summer weight limits.
 - ✓ Must comply with any axle load restrictions
 - ✓ Individual axles may not exceed 20,000 pounds.
 - ✓ Vehicles must have brakes on all wheels and axles
 - ✓ Axle groups cannot exceed the weight table plus 12.5% (converted table in “resources” tab)
 - ✓ There is no additional 5% above the 12.5%
 - ✓ Authorized areas of I-35 in Duluth area only.

Single Unit Milk Truck 10% Increase

- New law enacted during the 2017 legislature
- Hauls from the point of production to:
 - Another point of production for more loading
 - Point of first processing
 - No permit required
 - Single units only
 - Interstate transportation is not allowed
 - Seasonal weight increases do not apply
 - (No winter load increase to this transportation)

Fluid Milk Truck Requirements

- Allows 10% over the tire and axle laws
- This increase is for single unit vehicles only.
- Must comply with all road restrictions
- Per 169.87 Sub 4 (7 ton on 5 ton posted roads)
- Must comply with bridge postings
- Must not exceed tire or vehicle manufacturer’s ratings
- Fluid milk vehicles can operate with the raw or unprocessed agricultural permit (with different requirements) and on the interstate.

Notes

Road Construction Material Permit

- Effective January 1 2018
- Examples of eligible materials
- Hot Mix Asphalt
- Plastic Concrete
- Cementitious Materials
- Concrete admixtures
- Asphalt Cement (road oil)
- Recycled Road Materials

Materials in State Statute § 298.75

- Nonmetallic natural mineral aggregate as:
 - ✓ Sand
 - ✓ Silica Sand
 - ✓ Gravel
 - ✓ Crushed Rock
 - ✓ Limestone
 - ✓ Granite
 - ✓ Borrow (fill acquired from an excavation source)

Permit Restrictions

- May be operated on both paved and unpaved routes but not valid on interstate highways.
- Must comply with road and bridge postings
- Must comply with Minnesota table weight laws in state statute 169.824 (weight chart)
- Must comply with manufacturer vehicle weight ratings (per unit and combined).
- Brakes required on all wheels
- Subject to relevant evidence laws for civil penalties

6 or more axle vehicle

- Up to 90,000 pounds gross weight
- Up to 99,000 pounds during winter load increase
- State permit fee \$300. (per power unit)
 - ✓ Local road authorities may have a fee also
- Must comply with truck route requirements if applicable.
- Registration weight must be adequate for the gross weight.

7 or more axle vehicle

- Up to 97,000 pounds gross weight
- Up to 99,000 pounds during winter load increase (not the usual 10%).
- State permit fee \$500. (per power unit)
- Local road authorities may have a fee also
- Must comply with truck route requirement (if applicable)
- Registration weight must be adequate for the gross weight.

NOTES

Permit Caution:

- Statute § 169.869 states a road authority “may” issue an annual permit for the construction material transportation (not mandatory)
- Each road authority must authorize the transportation on their roadways
- A permit from one road authority does not authorize transportation on roads governed by other jurisdictions. (state, county, township, city etc.)
- Check with all road authorities before you haul

Local Preferred and Defined Routes

- Industry and local road authorities may together, identify routes best suited for authorized commodities.
- Local preferred route examples:
- Defined routes between facilities
- Temporary and Permanent
- Haul roads
- To construction sites from facilities such as asphalt or concrete plants
- Industry is encouraged to use preferred routes when possible

Minn. Stat. § 169.865 Agricultural Weight Increases

- For raw or unprocessed agricultural products only
- Weights allowed on paved 10-ton routes...6 or more axles = 90,000# & 7 or more axles = 97,000#
- Not Valid on Interstate Highways
- Requires Transportation Permit from each road authority where hauling is authorized
- Must comply with all road & bridge weight postings
- Must have brakes on all wheels
- No special tolerances or allowances
 - ✓ Including relevant evidence (civil weight) laws

90,000 pounds on 6 or more axles

- Truck must be rated for the weight
- Truck must have registration to cover weight
- Minnesota Axle Weight Table requires a minimum distance of 60 feet from first to last axle centers for this 90,000 pound weight.
 - ✓ See axle weight chart for these weights
- Maximum weight during the winter load increase is 99,000 pounds.

97,000 pounds on 7 or more axles

- Truck must be rated for the weight.
- Truck must have registration to cover weight
- Minnesota Axle Weight Table requires a minimum distance of 64 feet from first to last axle centers for this 97,000 pound weight.
 - ✓ See axle weight chart for these weights

NOTES

- Maximum weight during the winter load increase is 99,000 pounds. (not the usual 10%)
- Except for covered farm vehicles. Drivers must follow CDL regulations regarding qualifications and controlled substance testing

Agricultural Requirements

- Must comply with Minnesota Axle Weight limits for compliance of all axle spacing
- Must not exceed manufacturer's gross vehicle weight ratings (GVWR plate on the vehicle) GVWR alterations must be done prior to sale to first owner. (Federal law 49CFR 567.3)
- Permits needed from each road authority
 - ✓ 6 (or more) axles 90,000 pound \$300. State fee
 - ✓ 7 (or more) axles 97,000 pound \$500. State fee
 - ✓ Local route permits are in addition to the above

Road Restriction Rules and Conditions

- Paved routes remain at 10-ton limits unless otherwise posted
- Unpaved routes drop to 5-ton limits unless otherwise posted
- Road authorities may post routes to a lower weight as needed, to preserve roads from unnecessary damage.

Allowed 7 ton limits on 5 ton restricted routes

- School & Head Start buses:
- Refuse and Recycling
- Milk Trucks
- Allowed 7 ton weights on 5 ton routes as long as it's only a single trip farm to processing plant

Portable Toilet Service Vehicle

- Exempt from lower restricted roads
- Up to 14,000 pound single axle load
- No more than 26,000 pounds gross weight
- Exclusively designed and used for collecting liquid waste from portable toilets.
- 2015 legislation added to § 169.87 Sub 6 (b)

THANK YOU!

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- With Questions, feedback or suggestions for class locations