



General Conditions for Oversize/Overweight Loads

The State of Minnesota and the Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) assume no responsibility for the property, vehicles, or load of the permit holder (Permittee). During movement under a Mn/DOT permit, the Permittee must meet the terms and conditions of the permit and must take all reasonable precautions to protect and safeguard the lives and property of the traveling public, adjacent property owners, and the roadway infrastructure.

The Mn/DOT permit and any revision(s) are void if the actual loaded weights or dimensions exceed what is indicated on the face of the permit or its revision.

The Mn/DOT permit is not valid unless signed by the Permittee.

A copy of the Mn/DOT permit and any revisions must be carried in the transporting vehicle during movement and made available upon demand by any authorized law enforcement officer or Mn/DOT representative. In lieu of a paper copy of the permit, a permit may reside on a portable computer device in the vehicle as long as it is able to be properly viewed when requested.

- 1. Right of Way.** If the Permittee is not able to yield the right way to oncoming traffic, or if the vehicle/load will encroach into an oncoming traffic lane, an escort by a licensed Peace Officer in an authorized emergency vehicle is required. The escort must comply with Minnesota Statutes, section 169.20 subd. 5, par. (b).
- 2. Parking on the Highway.** In the event of a vehicle breakdown, the vehicle(s) must be moved onto the shoulder of the highway as far off the roadway as practical. The Minnesota State Patrol must be notified immediately of the breakdown if the load and vehicle cannot be moved off the roadway. Flares or reflective emergency triangles shall be placed around the vehicle as required by law.
- 3. Posted Roadway or Bridge.** The movement of empty or loaded vehicles that exceed the posted weight limits shown on road and bridge signs is not authorized. Regardless of a route listed on a permit, the Permittee must comply with all restrictions posted on any bridge, underpass, or other structure on which the Permittee travels.
- 4. Hours of Movement.** Authorized days and hours of movement are found under "Permit Travel Hours" and the "Permit Restriction Bulletin" at the following Web link: www.dot.state.mn.us/cvo/oversize/oversize.html. However, a permit may have travel hours that are different for a specific movement. In that case, the travel hours and restrictions listed on the permit take precedence. A lead and rear escort is required when moving at night with loaded dimensions over 10 feet wide or combination length over 85 feet long.
- 5. Twin Cities & Duluth Rush Hour Movement:** The Twin Cities metro area rush hour restriction periods are 6:00 AM – 8:30 AM and 3:30 PM – 6:00 PM. The Duluth metro area rush hour restriction periods are 7:00 AM – 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM. Rush hour restrictions apply to weekdays only.
Legal weight or over legal weight permitted vehicles/vehicle combinations up to 12'6" wide, 14' high, and 85' long can travel during rush hour restriction periods.
The Twin Cities metropolitan area includes all of Anoka, Hennepin, Ramsey, and Washington Counties as well as portions of Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Goodhue, Isanti, Le Sueur, Mille Lacs, Rice, Scott, Sherburne, Sibley, and Wright counties.
More complete information on rush hour restriction boundaries are found at the following Web link: www.dot.state.mn.us/cvo/permits/permit_travel_hours.pdf
- 6. Bad Weather and Road Surface Conditions.** Movement is not authorized when weather or road conditions are hazardous. These include slippery roads due to ice, moderate to heavy snow or rain, when visibility is less than 500 feet or when winds or gusts are strong enough that vehicle cannot stay within its travel lane. It is the responsibility of the driver to monitor local weather reports and 511 for real time weather and road condition reports which may be used to determine whether road conditions are adverse. Minnesota-specific road condition information by county is available at the Web site www.511mn.org or by phone by dialing 5-1-1.

7. **Hauling Unit.** An empty, over-legal size combination vehicle may be moved under a single trip permit for short moves of not more than 75 miles when a lifting device is not available to stack individual components. Use of an otherwise over-legal size/type vehicle or combination will be allowed only when the load itself warrants use of that vehicle. If an over-legal size/type vehicle is allowed to operate then that must be noted on the permit along with any additional special conditions or restrictions.
8. **Use of Flags.** Red, yellow, or orange warning flags must be displayed when any projection extends more than 3 feet ahead of the front bumper or 4 feet or more beyond the rear of the vehicle; when a vehicle or load exceeds 9 feet in width; or when a vehicle/load exceeds legal vehicle length.

Flags must be 18 inches square and in good repair. The flags must be secured at the extreme tips of front and rear overhang, at the widest points of narrow loads and on each corner of over width loads so as to be clearly and fully visible to traffic. When long loads are transported with a pole dolly or steering dolly, warning flags must be attached to the underside of the load, and spaced no more than 20 feet apart.

For night travel, steady burning lights must be mounted at every location where a flag is normally required. Lights must be a minimum of 4 inches diameter (12.5" surface area) and be visible from 500 feet with amber or yellow lenses facing to the front and sides and red lenses at the rear corners. See escort requirement under #4 - Hours of Movement.
9. **Use of Signs/Flashing Lights.** Signs must be legible and warning lights visible from a distance of no less than 500 feet. If the sign material is flexible, it must be pulled taut and mounted on a flat surface. Flashing warning lights are needed whenever signs are required.

Flashing warning lights may be disk, strobe, or rotating beacon. Lights must have a flash rate of 60-90 flashes per minute and be a minimum of 4 inches in diameter (12.5" surface area). Single warning light – must be mounted as close to center of sign as practical. Dual warning lights - must be mounted as far apart as practical.

Permitted vehicle – when loaded width exceeds 12 feet or when vehicle combination length exceeds 95 feet, "Oversize Load" signs and flashing warning lights must be displayed on the front and rear of the permitted vehicle with lights at least 20 inches above the ground. Signs must have 10" series C black 1-3/8" letters on a yellow background and measure at least 18" high x 72" long.

Escort vehicle – when civilian or LPA escort vehicles are required, the vehicle must display either a "Long Load" or "Wide Load" sign mounted on top of the escort vehicle. These signs must have 8" series C 1-1/8" black lettering on a yellow background and measure at least 12" high x 60" long. Signs cannot extend beyond the fender line on the driver's side or more than six inches beyond the fender line on the passenger side of the vehicle.
10. **Escorts.** An escort vehicle may be a passenger car, van, SUV or pickup truck in proper operating condition. The vehicle's driver must be at least 18 years of age with a current, valid driver's license. Whenever a loaded vehicle crosses centerline and will encroach into oncoming traffic a lead Peace Officer escort is required. An LPA escort can perform traffic control duties when escorting, as defined in MN Statutes § 326.338, but cannot use red lights to do so and cannot require oncoming traffic to yield right of way. A civilian escort cannot perform traffic control duties; it can only provide early warning. See escort requirement under #4 – Hours of Movement.
11. **Towing Unit Requirement.** The Permittee must ensure that the towing vehicle is adequate to handle the movement safely and meets federal and state vehicle safety requirements.
12. **Side Overhang.** Although centered loading is preferred, offset loading is permissible. When offset loading is necessary, the majority of the overhang should be on the right side of the vehicle as much as practical. When right-side overhang exceeds 3 feet 3 inches, the permitted vehicle is not allowed to pass other vehicles.
13. **Divisible Loading.** A load must be reduced to its smallest practical size and/or weight. A permit cannot be issued for a load of divisible weights or dimension, except for certain agricultural products. Examples of divisible loads that a permit would not be issued for are: more than one item in a crate, box, shipping container, bin, tank or similar type container; continuous product on a roll, reel, or similar device.
14. **Tire Limit.** Tire weights cannot exceed 500 pounds (600 pounds on steering axle) per inch of tire width, or the manufacturer's recommended tire load, whichever is less.
15. **Legal Dimension Limitations.** Legal width is 8'6"; overall legal height is 13'6"; overall legal length is as follows: single motor vehicle is 45 feet; mobile truck crane is 48 feet; semitrailer is 53 feet, with distance from king pin to center of rearmost axle group of 43 feet or less; single trailer, including tow bar is 45 feet; overall combination length is 75 feet.
16. **Legal Weight Limitations.** Minnesota statutes relating to legal weight limitations are included in the following sections: M.S. §169.822 through 169.844, and §169.87. The specific language of these statutes can be found at www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/statutes/
17. **License Plate, Motor Vehicle Registration and Tax Laws.** This permit has no bearing on vehicle (truck) license registration. A permitted, over-legal weight vehicle must be registered through the MN Dept. of Public Safety for the total of the scaled weights of all its axles (operating gross vehicle weight).
18. **Responsibility during Movement.** When Mn/DOT agrees to allow an alteration of state property, it must be noted on the permit. When a Permittee must alter any portion of a roadway, bridge, signage, or right-of-way

during a permit move, the Permittee is responsible for returning the roadway and right-of-way to the same condition, or better, than it was prior to the move. All alteration materials or supplies must be removed from the highway and right-of-way immediately after the move.

19. **Liability for Damage.** The Permittee may be responsible for any damage to the highway or its structures resulting from a willful or negligent act by the Permittee, as set forth in Minnesota Statute 169.88. Damages may be recovered through civil action or other remedial action defined by the department. In addition, the Permittee may be responsible for any personal property damage or injuries caused as a result of the Permittee's movement.
20. **Other Jurisdictions.** Authorization for movement over streets and roads, other than state trunk highways and/or the Interstate system, must be obtained from the local authorities having jurisdiction over those streets and roads.

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

S1. No movement if winds exceed 25 mph.

S2. Flag (lights at night) at widest point(s) of load. (S8 if greater than 10 feet wide)

S3. Flag (lights at night) at end of overhang (S8 if greater than 85 feet long)

S4. Flag (lights at night) every 20 feet along outside of load/vehicle(s) (S8 if greater than 85 feet)

S5. Oversize load sign (lighted at night) with flashing amber light(s) required.

S6. Lead escort plus radio communication amongst all in convoy required.

S7. Rear escort plus radio communication amongst all in convoy required

S8. At night, when over 10 feet wide or when combination is over 85 feet long, lead and rear escort is required plus full night lighting

*NOTE: Hauling equipment must be within legal limits unless noted differently on the permit.