

Office of Materials & Road Research**1400 Gervais Avenue
Maplewood, MN 55109-2044****Office phone: 651-366-5592****Fax: 651-366-5461****SEASONAL LOAD LIMIT NOTIFICATION**

Date: December 26, 2017

Subject: Winter Load Increase date set for the CENTRAL, METRO, SOUTH and SOUTHEAST FROST ZONES

POSTING UPDATE

Winter Load Increases will begin on unrestricted highways in the CENTRAL, METRO, SOUTH and SOUTHEAST FROST ZONES at 12:01 AM on Saturday, December 30, 2017.

Winter Load Increases are already in effect for the NORTH and NORTH-CENTRAL FROST ZONES.

Vehicles will be allowed to operate up to 10 percent over the standard legal maximum loads on unrestricted highways during the Winter Load Increase period. However, trucks must comply with current registration weight laws and not exceed registered gross weight tolerances. Please check with local agencies (cities, counties and townships) prior to increasing any weights on their routes. The sign erected on the roadway governs the load limit in effect. A Winter Weight Increase Permit is required to take advantage of the 10 percent weight increase on Interstate Highways only; a permit is not required for state trunk highways.

For questions about enforcement call:

Minnesota Department of Public Safety
State Patrol - Commercial Vehicle Enforcement
651-405-6196 (select Option 3, Option 3).

For questions about over legal weight/size "heavy haul" trucking call:

Minnesota Department of Transportation
Freight and Commercial Vehicle Operations - Oversize/Weight Permits
651-296-6000

or email: ofcvpermits.dot@state.mn.us

Winter Load Increases starting and ending dates are based on how weather is affecting roadway strength. These dates are established by monitoring roadway strength as weather conditions change. Therefore, the ending date for Winter Load Increases is variable and drivers MUST check for updates throughout the year. Vehicle operators are required to check with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for the exact start and end dates.

All changes are made with a minimum three calendar-day notice.

As soon as a date is set, MnDOT will report this date on its 24-hour automated message center at 1-800-723-6543 for the USA and Canada, and locally at 651-366-5400 for the Minneapolis/St Paul area. This information is also published on the MnDOT Seasonal Load Limits website: www.mndot.gov/loadlimits