



GUIDELINES FOR OVERSIZE/OVERWEIGHT VEHICLES

May 2012

1. Highway Traffic Act Weight & Dimension Limitations

An oversize/overweight permit is required when the dimensions or weight of a vehicle(s) exceeds the normal limits permitted by legislation. The following is a breakdown of the weight and dimension limitations. More information may be contained in the appropriate sections of the *Highway Traffic Act (HTA)*.

The following information is to assist persons wishing to make application to the Town of Collingwood for permission to travel on Town of Collingwood roads with an oversize load/overweight vehicle. The information below applies only to Town of Collingwood roads and it is the responsibility of the Owner and mover to obtain approval from the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and or The County of Simcoe road authorities where moves require travel on Provincial Highways and/or County roads.

Maximum Width:

Vehicle including load- 2.6m

Exceptions:

- 1) Raw forest products (en route)-2.8m
- 2) Road service vehicles as defined in Part X of the *Highway Traffic Act* and such vehicles while they are travelling to and from a maintenance site or repair centre - no specified limit
- 3) Loose fodder (including rectangular and round bales of hay- 2.8m

Maximum Length:

Single vehicle including load- 12.5m

Exceptions:

- 1) A fire apparatus
- 2) A semi-trailer
- 3) An articulated bus

Maximum Length:

Semi-trailer including load- 14.65m

Definition of semi-trailer: A vehicle that is towed by another vehicle and is so designed and used that a substantial part of its weight and load rests on, or is carried by, the other vehicle or a trailer converter dolly through a fifth wheel assembly.

Note: Does not include any extension in length caused by auxiliary equipment or machinery not designed for carrying a load.

Maximum Length (Combination):

Combination of vehicles and load- 23m

Maximum Height:

Vehicle and load- 4.15m

Maximum Weight:

Maximum weight allowances are determined using axle configurations and spacing. A permit is required if the axle and/or gross vehicle weight exceeds the limits set out in the *Highway Traffic Act*.

Implements of Husbandry:

Over dimensional farm machinery, farm tractors, self-propelled implements of husbandry (SPIH) carried on a plated motor vehicle or plated trailer drawn by a motor vehicle are subject to the need for an over dimensional permit.

2. Types of Permits

The Town issues two types of permits; Annual and Single Trip. Each oversize/overweight permit will have specific conditions attached and these must be strictly adhered to. The permit may be terminated for breach of any condition and the permit holder may be subject to prosecution.

Permits must be carried and produced on demand by a police officer or an officer appointed for carrying out the provisions of the *Highway Traffic Act*. Permit holders accept responsibility for any and all damage that may be caused to overhead wires, structures, highways, encroachments or railway right of ways. Permits may be terminated at the discretion of the Town for the breach of permit conditions.

2. A) Annual Permits:

An annual permit is valid to December 31st of the year on all Town highways. An annual permit may be requested for a project to allow a contractor to move similar loads, objects and structures over the same specified route. The maximum dimensions permitted on an annual permit are as follows:

Length:

Single vehicle- length 12.50m, including a maximum rear overhang of 4.65m

Combination vehicle- length 23m to 25m, including a maximum rear overhang of 4.65m

Width:

- 2.6m to 3.70m on all Town roads

Height:

- 4.26m

Weight: As per the Highway Traffic Act

2. B) Single Trip Permits

A single trip permit is issued to facilitate an oversize/overweight move for a one way trip along a specified route for a limited time period. All loads exceeding maximum allowable dimensions in the annual permit must be presented under a single trip permit unless special permission is granted under the annual permit.

The following dimensions are permitted on single trip permits:

Length:

- Combination vehicles from 23m to 45.75m
- Single vehicle 12.50m

Width:

- From 2.61m to 5m obtained through customer service
- Over 5.00m (Sign off sheet is required)

Height:

- 4.16m or greater
- Maximum height permitted on a flatbed trailer is 4.26m
- Over 4.5m maximum height (Sign off sheet is required)

Weight:

- Up to 120,000KG

Single vehicle:

Maximum length is 12.50m, including an overhang up to 4.65m

Maximum height is 4.26m

When applying for a single trip permit, a carrier should apply at a minimum of 5 days prior to the proposed move date but the Town suggests applying 10 to 15 days prior to the move to allow sufficient time to process the permit request.

Exceptional Loads:

When applying for a permit with exceptional dimensions over 5m in width, and/or 45.75m or greater in length and/or 4.5m or greater in height and/or over 120,000kg, a carrier should submit their application at least **45 days** prior to the proposed move date due to the more involved approval process. Loads with exceptional dimensions required approval of all affected agencies. A signed exceptional load checklist must be obtained by all impacted agencies.

For gross vehicle weights in excess of 120,000kg, the Town may require the applicant to hire a designated consultant engineer to evaluate the bridges and roads on route, and submit the evaluation for approval.

A Traffic Management Plan defining in detail all aspects of the intended move, including:

1. Detailed escort requirement and procedures identifying the responsibility of all units involved (Police & private)
2. Detailed route survey indicating all appropriate locations for road closures, pullover areas, emergency parking, fuel stops, significant turning movements and any anticipated roadside related activities such as restricting roadside parking.
3. Contingency plans for breakdowns

All documentation will be subjected to review and approval by the Town prior to the insurance of permits. Consideration will only be given to the move if it can be satisfactorily proven to be absolutely necessary.

3. Permit Fees

Annual Permit: As per the Town of Collingwood Fees & Services By-law

Single Trip Permit: As per the Town of Collingwood Fees & Services By-law

4. Special Permit Considerations

Weekend Moves:

Weekend moves are allowed for annual permit only with certain restrictions on dimensions.

Oversize/overweight moves are allowed all day Saturday and Sunday for dimensions that **do not exceed** the following dimensions:

- Width of 3.70m on tow lane highways and 3.85m on multi-lane highways
- Length no greater than 25m for combination vehicles and 12.5m for single vehicles height maximum 4.26m
- Height maximum 4.26m
- Weight no greater than 63,500kg

Permit Conditions:

Conditions contained on all oversize/overweight permits must be strictly adhered to. The permit may be terminated for breach of any condition and the permit holder may be subject to prosecution.

Permits issued are not valid in combination with any other permits issued under Section 110.

Security of Loads:

Loads being moved under an oversize/overweight permit must be firmly bound, or otherwise secured or loaded, in such a manner that no portion of the load may become dislodged or fall from the motor vehicle or trailer on which they are being transported. Regulation 614 under the *Highway Traffic Act* governs the security of loads and sets out the requirements for various typed of loads.

Bonds:

The Corporation may require that a bond, or other security, sufficient to cover the cost of repairing possible damage to the highway, be posted before issuing a permit.

Any of the following circumstances may be sufficient to warrant a bond being posted:

1. Where loading on tires must exceed 11kg per millimeter width,
2. Where loading on axle must exceed 10,000kg during reduced load period,
3. Where total gross vehicle weight exceeds 120,000kg subject to engineering analysis of bridge structures and geotechnical assessment of roadway structure,
4. Where overweight vehicles must be routed over substandard bridge structures subject to engineering analysis of bridge structures, or
5. Deemed to be warranted by the Town

The value of the bond will be determined by the Town and is not subject to negotiation. The carrier may be required to pay for the services of Town approved geotechnical and/or structural consultants to assess conditions and evaluate any damages caused by the Town.

Flags, Signs and Lighting:

Vehicles and/or loads in excess of Highway Traffic Act legal dimensions require special flags and signs, when travelling at night, conspicuity markings must also be met.

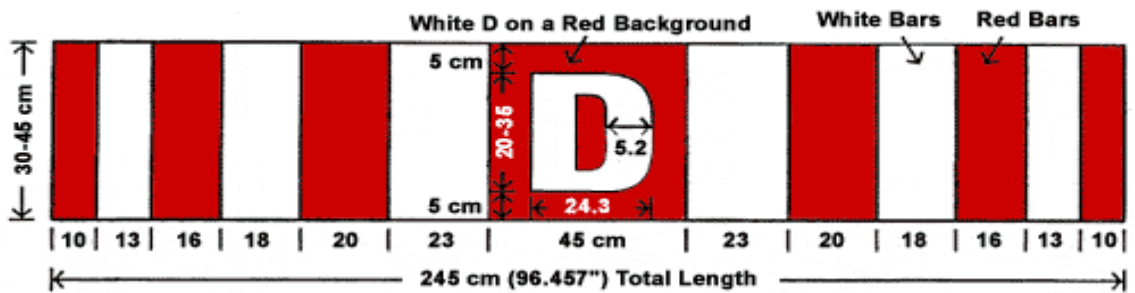
Flags:

Vehicles and/or loads in excess of dimensions prescribed under Section 109 of the *Highway Traffic Act* shall be marked with bright red or orange warning flags of not less than 40cm square and shall be mounted to the extremities of the vehicle or load. The flag(s) must be kept in good and clean condition so as to not diminish their effectiveness.

“D” Sign or “Oversize Load”:

In addition to flags described above, vehicles and/or loads must display on the front of the vehicle and the rear of the load, in a clearly visible position, a sign visible for distance of at least 150m bearing the words “**OVERSIZE LOAD**” in black letters at least 20cm high with lines forming the letters at least 3cm wide on a yellow background. When travelling under night moves, the sign shall be made of Level 1, high intensity retro-reflective material (CGSB 62-GP-11M). The sign shall be positioned as to not obstruct lights and other safety devices and removed or covered when not in use.

The signs must be removed or covered when not required.



Lighting:

Unless otherwise specifically noted on the permit, night moves are only permitted on annual permits. Conspicuity requirements **must** be met during a night move. These requirements are over and above the lighting requirements set out in the *Highway Traffic Act* and consist of the extremities being marked with a solid amber lamp(s) visible in the front and rear conforming to SAE Code P2 or P3 with markings to appear on lamp(s).

When travelling under a night move, a retro-reflective “D” sign described above must be present.

Escort Requirements:

A permit may be issued on the condition that the permit holder provides an escort vehicle(s) either preceding or following the oversize/overweight vehicle or load. A description of when an escort vehicle is required is as follows:

No escort required:

- For widths from 2.61m to 3.99m
- For lengths from 23.01m to 36.75m
- For heights from 4.16m to 4.86m

When a Private Escort Warning Vehicle is required:

Widths:

- From 4m to 4.59m- 1 escort vehicle required on two lane highways
- From 4.6m to 4.99m- 2 escort vehicles required on two lane highways
- One private escort warning vehicle is required to accompany the movement of the authorized load. The private escort warning vehicle shall be required to precede the load on two lane highways or follow the load on multi-lane highways

Lengths:

- From 36.76m to 45.74m- 1 escort vehicle required
- Rear overhang greater than 4.65m-1 escort vehicle required at the rear of load

Heights:

- 4.87m and greater- 1 escort vehicle (pole car) required

Exceptions for mobile/modular homes- see below.

When a Minimum of Two Police Escort Vehicles are required:

Width: 5m and greater

Length: 45.75m and greater

Weight: Town requirement

There may be instances where, due to parameters of the highway, escort requirements may change. If necessary, the Town may require escorts when normally none are required or additional escorts to those already requiring escorts.

If a police escort is required, it is the carrier's responsibility to make all arrangements for the escort through the local OPP detachment. The OPP normally requires 14 working

days to process an application, but there may be exceptions depending on the circumstances. The OPP is responsible for coordinating the escort for the entire move and will provide the carrier with written approval for the escort. This approval **must** be provided to the Town prior to a permit being issued.

Private Escort Warning Vehicle Requirements:

Where a permit is issued on the condition that the permit holder provides a Private Escort Operator, Warning Vehicle and Equipment:

1. The escort vehicle(s) shall be operated by a fully (unrestricted) licensed driver of not less than 18 years of age with at least two years experience and a valid driver's license.
2. The escort vehicle(s) shall not have more than 2 axles and a wheelbase length of not less than 2.65 metres and shall be equipped with flashing amber warning lamp(s) located on the roof of the escort vehicle. Lighting shall consist of either a rectangular amber bar positioned perpendicular to the length of the escort vehicle or at least one amber warning lamp conforming to standard SAE J845 or J1318 Class 1 or 2. All lights shall be visible on a 360 degrees basis from the vehicle. The lenses must be kept in good and clean condition, free from the accumulation of dirt, snow or pit markings, as to not diminish the effectiveness of the lamp.
3. Either a "D" or an "OVERSIZED" sign shall be used. [See "D" sign (as illustrated in figure 1) attached. If using an "OVERSIZE LOAD" sign, the letters shall be in black on a yellow background]. The sign shall be mounted on the front and rear, or on the roof, of the escort vehicle. The sign shall not obstruct warning lights and other safety devices. If mounted on the roof, the sign shall be perpendicular to the length of the escort vehicle and shall be made of durable rigid must be printed on both sides of the panel. The sign shall be removed or covered when not in use.

The escort vehicle(s) and towing vehicle(s) shall be equipped with a working two way radio communication device permitting direct communication between the vehicles.

All units, including the escort vehicle(s), will be operated with headlights on when travelling on a highway and shall maintain a distance of 60 to 150 metres from the load being escorted.

Caution: Escort vehicles do not have traffic control authority. The escort driver must obey all traffic laws and regulations.

Mobile/Modular Homes:

(This includes office and construction trailers and portable schoolhouse)

Mobile/modular homes greater than 29.25m in length are not permitted to travel in convoy and require **two** private escort warnings vehicles to accompany each load.

Reduced Load Period:

Annual permits for moving heavy vehicles, loads, objects or structures in excess of legal weight limits are **not** valid on any Town's highway during the period where signs have been posted by the Director of Public Works. Weights in excess of legal limits are only allowed when specifically authorized to do so under permit conditions.

Annual permits are **not** valid on designated reduced load highways, which are posted according to Section 122(5) of the *Highway Traffic Act*, under any circumstances.

Single trip permits may be issued for movements on highways subject to reduced loading restrictions. Annual permits with special weight condition for specific axle weight configurations have an additional condition for reduced load periods.

Clearance in Construction Zones:

Annual and project permit holders may encounter construction zones where the horizontal clearance has been reduced to less than 3.70m or vertical clearance has been reduced to less than 4.26m. Before traveling through any construction zone, the permit holder is responsible for verifying clearances.

Highway 26 Connecting Link

Portions of Highway 26 through the Town of Collingwood are under the jurisdiction of the Town and not the Ministry of Transportation. In recognition that some applicants may wish to transport loads under an MTO annual permit, on the Highway 26 Connecting Link road system only, the Town may exempt these applicants from obtaining a Town of Collingwood annual permit provided the vehicle stays on the Highway 26 designated roads only.