

## Winter 10% Weight Exemption Permit Policy

**PURPOSE:** To establish guidelines when 10% extra weight permits can be issued for movement of all products on county highways when road beds are frozen.

**POLICY STATEMENT:** As authorized by Section 5.4 of the Richland County ordinance to classify highways as to weight and load capacities, the Richland county Commissioners may grant the County Highway Department authority to issue 10% weight exemption permits for general movements of all products on county highways when road beds are frozen. **Dates of movement will be December 1 through March 7 of the following year.** The permits will contain restrictions as deemed necessary by the County Sheriff department or the County Highway Department. Permits may be revoked by the County Engineer based on road conditions or by the County Sheriff when the holder violates or abuses any privilege or conditions of a permit.

### PROCEDURE:

#### A. Axle Weight Limitations

- a. Tire Weight may not exceed 605 lbs. (550 lbs. plus 10%) per inch width of tire.  
Example: 1. 8.25 tires on a steering axle = 9,983 lbs.  
2. 9.00 tires on a steering axle = 10,890 lbs.  
3. 10:00 tires on a steering axle = 12,100 lbs.
- b. Single axle weight (4 tires) may not exceed 22,000 lbs. (20,000 lbs. plus 10%).  
Example: 1. 8.25 tires = 18,150 lbs. plus 10% = 19,965 lbs.  
2. 9:00 tires = 19,800 lbs. plus 10% = 21,780 lbs.  
3. 10:00 tires = 20,000 lbs. plus 10% = 22,000 lbs.
- c. Tandem axle weights (8 tires) may not exceed 37,400 lbs. (34,000 lbs. plus 10%) (not to exceed 18,700 lbs. per axle).  
Example: 1. 7:50 tires = 33,000 lbs. plus 10% = 36,300 lbs.  
2. Tires that are 8:00 or larger qualify for 37,400 lbs.
- d. Triple axle weight (12 tires) may not exceed 52,000 lbs. (48,000 Lbs. plus 10%) (not to exceed 18,700 lbs. per axle).

#### B. Gross Vehicle Weight Restrictions:

- a. The number of axles and measurement between the extreme axle centers determines gross vehicle weights.  
Example: 1. 3 axles x 16 feet = 48,000 lbs. plus 10% = 52,800 lbs.  
2. 4 axles x 22 feet = 56,500 lbs. plus 10% = 62,150 lbs.  
3. 5 axles x 48 feet = 78,000 lbs. plus 10% = 85,800 lbs.  
4. 5 axles x 51 feet = 80,000 lbs. plus 10% = 88,000 lbs.

Vehicle combinations of six or more axles also qualify for the 10% additional weight as determined by the Weight Limitations Chart, NDHP 921, but **may not exceed 105,500 lbs.**

#### C. Travel Restrictions

- a. Federal law **does not** allow the 10% extra weight on the **Interstate system.**
- b. On some **sections** of highways, it **may** be necessary to restrict axle weights to **legal weights** due to bridge structure limitations.
- c. The 10% weight increase **will not** apply on other local roads under their jurisdiction.
- d. The 10% extra weight **cannot** be used in conjunction with NDDOT equipment approval policy.
- e. The 10% can be issued above **legal** weights only.
- f. The 10% weight increase **will not** apply prior to December 1<sup>st</sup>. **and** until subgrade conditions have reached a frozen state as determined by the County Engineer.
- g. If spring road restrictions become effective prior to March 7, the permit will be cancelled.

#### D. Registration Requirement

- a. The registered gross weight does not have to include the additional 10%. The vehicle must be registered for **the maximum legal gross vehicle weight.**

#### E. Application Procedure:

- a. The fee for the exemption is \$100 per vehicle per each 30-day period. Permits can be obtained from the Richland County Highway Department or from any Sheriff's Deputy. The permit will show the permissible weights and must be in possession when exceeding legal weight limits.