



# Wisconsin Department of Transportation - DTSD

Bureau of Highway Maintenance  
Oversize/Overweight Permits  
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## HM PERMIT CONDITION SHEET HAY OR STRAW

### 1. AUTHORITY & ELIGIBILITY

- Under Wis. Stats. s. 348.27(16) the department may issue annual or consecutive month permits for the transportation of hay or straw on a vehicle or combination of vehicles that exceeds the height limitations under s. 348.06.
- A permit under this subsection does not authorize the operation of any vehicle or vehicle combination having an overall height in excess of 14 feet 6 inches if the vehicle or vehicle combination is being operated on a highway in an "urban area" or 15 feet if the vehicle or vehicle combination is being operated on any other highway.
- For the purposes of this permit, the department defines "urban area" as Brown, Columbia, Dane, Milwaukee, Rock and Waukesha counties.

### 2. SIZE LIMITATIONS – VEHICLE & LOAD

- Single vehicle length 45' (legal)
- Truck/trailer vehicle combination length 70' (legal)
- Tractor/trailer combination length 75' (legal)
- Overall width 8'6" (legal)\*
- Overall height issued at 15'
- Overall height in "urban areas" 14'6"

\*May be used in conjunction with Wis. Stats. s. 348.05(2)(L) to allow overwidth and overheight loads of hay, but not straw. Overwidth travel is not allowed on Interstate highways.

### 3. WEIGHT LIMITATIONS

- Must be hauled at legal weight.

### 4. ROUTE LIMITATIONS

- If vehicle is overheight, but legal in weight and all other dimensions, travel on all Interstate highways is allowed, except where already restricted by law.
- Must have written statement of route approval by the officer in charge of maintenance if the route desired involves municipal, township or county roads.

## 5. GENERAL OPERATING REQUIREMENTS

- Vehicles may be operated at the posted speed limit.
- Carrier must have a **minimum clearance of 3"** between load height and all overhead structures.
- Maximum height for a vehicle moving through "urban areas" is 14'6" (See **Authority & Eligibility** on page 1 for definition of "urban area").

## 6. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

- Bodily injury, each person \$150,000 or \$750,000 combined single limit
- Bodily injury, each accident \$450,000
- Property damage, each accident \$300,000

## 7. VEHICLE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

- Vehicle or vehicles must be registered for not less than the maximum registration weight available or the permit weight, whichever is less.

## 8. PERMIT APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Apply online ONLY. <https://wisconsin.gov/Pages/dmv/com-driv-vehs/mtr-car-trkr/osow-autosys.aspx>
- Permits may be issued for 3 to 12 months.

## 9. PERMIT FEE INFORMATION

Fees are calculated from the effective DAY of the permit, not the calendar months. (*Example: 9/5 to 11/20 – greater than 2 months to the day, but less than 3 months, would be calculated as 3 months.*)

# Months	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
	90.00	90.00	90.00	82.50	75.00	67.50	60.00	52.50	45.00	37.50

## 10. EXEMPTIONS FROM PERMITTING REQUIREMENT

- **Wis. Stats. s. 348.05(2)(L)** 12 feet for loads of **hay** in bales if the total outside width of the loads does not exceed the width of a single traffic lane over which the loads are carried. Movement without permit is allowed when traveling on State Trunk Highways or local roads, but this exemption does not apply to vehicles on Interstate highways.
- **Wis. Stats. s. 348.27(11m)** If the secretary of agriculture, trade and consumer protection determines that an agricultural emergency exists, the secretary of transportation may authorize the issuance of permits to allow vehicles that are transporting any of the following loads to exceed the width limitation under s. 348.05(1) if the total outside width does not exceed 12'5" inches and the height does not exceed 14'6": *Baled hay, baled straw, baled cornstalks, or baled stover if the hay, straw, cornstalks, or stover is to be used for feed or bedding.*
- **1993 Wisconsin Act 353** The size, shape, or diameter of individual bales is no longer regulated. Bales may be any size, but the load must be stable, and may not exceed the width of a single traffic lane over which the load is carried.

May 24, 2023