

Ordinance to Enforce Spring Weight Limits on Town Roads
Ordinance No: 2023-1

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Town of Union

Waupaca County

SECTION I – PURPOSE

The purpose of this ordinance is to prevent damage to the town roads, preserve the integrity and structure of roads for everyone to use for years to come, to reduce costs for repairing roads due to damage caused by transporting heavy loads during the Wisconsin spring thaw, and to give authority to those who enforce the laws in Wisconsin to enforce this ordinance.

SECTION II - AUTHORITY

The Town Board of the Town of Union, Waupaca County, Wisconsin, has the specific authority under Wisconsin statutes §348.17 and §349.16 to adopt this ordinance.

SECTION III – ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE

By a majority of the town board on a roll call vote with a quorum present and voting and proper notice having been given, do hereby adopt this ordinance to authorize the Waupaca County Sheriff's Department and any law enforcement officer authorized to enforce the laws of the State of Wisconsin to enforce the spring weight limits of six (6) ton for a single axle vehicle and ten (10) ton for a tandem axle vehicle on posted town roads.

SECTION IV – SUMMARY

No person, whether operating under a permit or otherwise, shall operate a vehicle in violation of special weight limitations imposed by state or local authorities on particular highways, highway structures or portions of highways when signs have been erected as required by [349.16\(2\)](#) giving notice of such weight limitations, except when the vehicle is being operated under a permit expressly authorizing such weight limitations to be exceeded or is being operated as authorized under sub. [\(4\)](#).

If the hauler carries the same commodity every day, the town can issue the hauler a multiple permit that will cover the vehicle for the entire spring weight limit season. The cost of a multiple trip permit will be \$ 0 in 2023, but a fee will be charged starting for 2024, for **EACH vehicle the hauler permits**. Multiple permits can be issued by the town chairman **prior** to the weight limit season starting so the hauler is ready when spring thaw occurs.

If the hauler only travels town roads occasionally, the cost of the permit for each vehicle will be \$ 0 in 2023, but a fee will be charged starting for 2024. Single permits can be acquired during the spring weight limit season by contacting the town chairman.

Whenever the operator of a vehicle is ordered by the officer or agency in charge of maintenance or by a traffic officer to suspend operation of such vehicle because of the damage such vehicle is causing or likely to cause to the highway or the public investment therein, the operator shall forthwith comply with such order.

Upon conviction for a violation of this ordinance, the violator shall pay a forfeiture of not less than \$100.00 nor more than the actual costs to repair the damage caused to the road, plus the applicable surcharges, assessments, and costs for each violation. Each trip in violation of this ordinance constitutes a separate offense. In addition, the town board may seek injunctive relief from a court of record to enjoin further violations.

This ordinance becomes effective upon passage and posting and/or publication as required under §60.80, Wisconsin Statutes.

Passed this 6th day of February 2023

Gary Schoen, Town Chairman

Sharon Olsen, Town Clerk

Walter Strebe, Supervisor I

Marcy Wentworth, Supervisor II

Adopted: February 6, 2023
Published: February 24, 2023

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