Wisconsin Department of Transportation

DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES
Oversize/Overweight Permits
P.O. Box 7980
Madison, WI 53707-7980
608) 266-7320

HAY OR STRAW
OVERSIZE/OVERWEIGHT PERMIT INFORMATION SHEET

- Under Wisconsin Statute 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.
- If the roads desired to be used by an applicant for a permit under this subsection involve highways other than those within the state trunk highway system, the application shall be accompanied by a written statement of route approval by the officer in charge of maintenance of the other highway.
- 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.
- The department defines "Urban areas" as Brown, Columbia, Dane, Milwaukee, Rock and Waukesha counties.

SIZE LIMITATIONS
- Single Vehicle Length 45'00" (legal)
- Truck & Trailer Length 70'00" (legal)
- Truck-Tractor & Semi Trailer Length 75'00" (legal)
- Overall Width 8'06" (legal)*
- Overall Height issued at 15'00"
- Overall Height in “Urban areas” 14'06"

*May be used in conjunction with s.348.05(2)(L) to allow overwidth and overheight loads of hay but not straw.

WEIGHT LIMITATIONS
- Must be hauled at legal weight.

INSURANCE REQUIRED
- Bodily injury, each person $200,000
- Bodily injury, each accident $650,000
- Property damage, each accident $400,000
- Or combined single limit $1,000,000

VEHICLE REGISTRATION
- Vehicle or vehicles must be registered for not less than the maximum registration weight available or the permit weight, whichever is less.
ROUTE LIMITATIONS
• If vehicle is overheight, but legal in all other dimensions and weight, travel on all interstate highways is allowed except where already restricted by law.
• May not operate on any Interstate highway if both overheight and overwidth.
• If the roads desired to be used by an applicant for a permit under this subsection involve highways other than those within the State Trunk Highway System, the application shall be accompanied by a written statement of route approval by the officer in charge of maintenance of the other highway.

PERMIT CONDITIONS
• Vehicles may be operated at the posted speed limit.
• Carrier must have a minimum clearance of three inches between load height and all overhead structures.
• Maximum height for a vehicle moving through "Urban areas" is 14'06".

PERMIT APPLICATION
• Apply Online only at: http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/business/carriers/osow-autosys.htm
• Permits may be issued for 3 to 12 months.

FEE INFORMATION
Fees 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 3 months.)

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Statutory Exemptions for movement of hay on Wisconsin roadways
• **Statute 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.
• **Agricultural Emergency Permit:** Statute 348.27(11m). 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 feet 5 inches and the height does not exceed 14 feet 6 inches: 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.