

TOWN OF CAMBRIDGE, MAINE

Rules and Regulations Restricting Heavy Loads on Closed Ways and Temporary Closure of Ways

Enacted by a vote of the Selectmen on this 8th day of June, 2016.

Attest: Carol Laplante Town Clerk

SUMMARY: The following rules and regulations restrict heavy loads and temporary closures on posted Town ways and or bridges at any time of year, pursuant to the municipal officers authority under Title 29-A M.R.S.A., Section 2395 and Title 30-A M.R.S.A., Section 3009.

1. Definitions

- A. The definitions contained in Title 29-A, Section 101 of the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated shall govern the construction of the words contained in this regulation.
- B. Gross weight is the combined weight of the vehicle and its load.
- C. Special Mobile Equipment. "Special Mobile Equipment" shall mean every self-propelled vehicle not designed or used primarily for the transportation of persons or property but which is operated over the highways, including road construction or maintenance machinery, ditch-digging apparatus, stone crushers, air compressors, power shovels, cranes, graders, rollers, trucks used only as snowplows and for carrying sand for ballast only, well drillers and wood-sawing equipment used for hire. This enumeration shall be deemed partial and shall not operate to exclude other such vehicles which are within the general terms of this section.

2. Designated Closed Ways

In order to prevent excessive damage to Town ways and or bridges, the Selectmen may close all or part of a Town way and/or a bridge to heavy vehicles or all vehicles at any time of year. No vehicles shall travel over closed ways except those permitted by this regulation.

3. Notice

Notice shall be given by erecting at each end of the closed Town way a poster indicating the following: (1) the date of the posting, (2) a description of the highway closed, (3) a summary of the vehicles exempt from the closing, (4) the name of the Selectman, and (5) statutory and regulatory references.

4. Exemption - Frozen Highways This regulation shall not apply to any closed highway which is solidly frozen. The highway is considered "solidly frozen" only when the air temperature is 32 degrees Fahrenheit or below *and* no water is showing in the cracks of the road. *Both* conditions must be met.

5. Exempt Vehicles

The following vehicles are exempt from heavy loads limited posting regulation (but not the temporary road closure posting):

- A. Any vehicle or combination of vehicles registered for a gross weight of 23,000 pounds or less.
- B. Any vehicle or combination of vehicles registered for a gross weight in excess of 23,000 pounds and traveling without a load other than tools or equipment necessary for the proper operation of the vehicle. This exemption does not apply to special mobile equipment.
- C. Town of Cambridge or Town contracted highway maintenance vehicles or vehicles under the direction of a public jurisdiction with permission of the Selectmen engaged in emergency maintenance of public ways, appurtenances thereto, and/or bridges.
- D. Passenger cars, pickup trucks, emergency vehicles, school buses, a wrecker towing a disabled vehicle of legal weight from a posted Town way, and vehicles with three axles or less under the direction of a public utility and engaged in plant maintenance or repair.
- E. Any vehicle transporting home heating fuel (oil, gas, coal, stove size wood, propane and wood pellets) to a private consumer, gasoline, groceries, bulk milk, bulk feed, solid waste, rubbish, animal bedding, returnable beverage containers, removing sewage from private septic tank or providing porta-potty services, or medical gases may apply for an exemption certificate (Attachment A). These vehicles must be registered in excess of 23,000 pounds and must be carrying a partial load with a weight equal to or less than that indicated on an exemption certificate issued by the Maine Department of Transportation (Attachment B). This certificate shall accompany the vehicle at all times as shall weigh slips, delivery slips, or bills of lading for the load being carried. The allowable weight indicated on the exemption certificate will be based on weights listed in the table in Attachment C. Applicants for exemption certificates must present a certified weigh slip for the empty weight of the unloaded vehicle as a prerequisite to obtaining an exemption certificate.
- F. Any combination vehicle of five axles or more weighing 80,000 pounds gross or less hauling perishable products. A permit issued by the Town of Cambridge shall accompany any load of perishable products. (See Attachment D).
- G. Town of Cambridge Selectmen, at their discretion, may allow heavy loads over posted roadways involving singular, nonrecurring moves. Such permission shall be made in writing specifying limitations and shall accompany the vehicle at all times.

6. Procedures for obtaining and using trip tickets for hauling perishable products over seasonally posted roads

- A. It is now possible for a shipper to haul perishable products over seasonally closed ways by securing a permit from the Town of Cambridge Selectmen at the Town Office.
- B. The permit issued will be in the form of individual pre-numbered trip tickets for hauling of perishable products by 5 axle or more combination vehicles and will be limited to a combined weight of 80,000 lbs. and may, on occasion, be further limited by time, route, and temperature.
- C. These trip tickets for hauling perishable products over seasonally closed ways will cost \$5.00 each. (Checks payable to Town of Cambridge). These trip tickets will consist of three copies each with the following distribution: (1) original copy – for driver, (2) second copy - to be returned immediately to the