

**RICHLAND COUNTY  
ENGINEER'S OFFICE****LIMITATIONS/PROVISIONS ON THE USE OF A SPECIAL HAULING PERMIT****GENERAL LIMITATIONS**

1. A copy of the valid Special Hauling Permit (SHP) as issued by the Richland County Engineer's Office shall be in the possession of the driver at all times during the progress of transportation and shall be shown on demand to any law enforcement officer, employee of the Ohio State Highway Patrol or to any employee of the Richland County Engineer's Office. The driver is responsible to identify and present the precise copy of the SHP covering the movement of the load being transported. The SHP shall be clearly legible, free of any markings, writing, symbol, logo, letterhead, characters or inscriptions that are not part of the SHP as transmitted by the Richland County Engineer's Office (an additional tele-facsimile header is allowed).
2. The permission granted restricts the movement of the vehicle(s) or object(s) to the highways specified, between the points designated, and within the time allotted. Permittee is responsible to check the route for abnormal, changed, or unknown/unusual conditions which may exist during any move.
3. No vehicle(s) or object(s) being transported under a **SHP** shall be left parked on the roadway either day or night except in case of an emergency, in which case adequate protection shall be provided for the traveling public. The vehicle(s) shall not be loaded or unloaded within the limits of the highway.
4. The operator of the vehicle must comply with all laws, rules regulations or credentials covering:  
The movement of traffic over highways and streets.  
Commercial Motor Vehicle operations (I.R.P., C.D.I., I.F.T.A., U.C.R., Load Securement, etc.)
5. **SHP's** will not generally be issued for build-up loads that are divisible into legal loads or loads that have not been loaded to the least over dimension or the least overweight. Miscellaneous items may, however, be transported on the same vehicle with an over dimensional piece or pieces so long as the miscellaneous items do not add to the over dimension. It is not necessary to identify these miscellaneous items. If, in the event of an extenuating circumstance, a **SHP** is issued for a divisible load in which two or more pieces add to the over dimension or overweight, such load will be adequately described.
6. A **SHP is void** at any time road, weather or traffic conditions make travel unsafe, as determined by the State Highway Patrol or local law enforcement.
7. Movement of mobile homes, manufactured structures, office trailers, and park model recreational vehicles is prohibited when wind velocity exceeds 25 mph on the roadway or 15 mph on bridges.

**OPERATING LIMITATIONS**

1. No vehicle(s) or object(s) being transported under a **SHP** shall travel in convoy with any other oversize/overweight vehicle or vehicle and load. Convoying is defined as operating within 500' of any permitted vehicle that is traveling in front and in the same direction as said vehicle.
2. Every vehicle operating under **SHP** when traveling on freeways, expressways, multi-lane undivided highways, shall remain in the extreme right-hand lane of said highway except as necessary to maintain continuous through movement, to make left turns or exits or to pass other vehicles.
3. Any load with an overall height in excess of **14 feet 10 inches** shall be required to coordinate the move with the owners of all overhead signs, signals, utilities, etc., which may obstruct safe, clear movement.
4. Reductions in legal weight posted on roadways or bridges must be obeyed. Contact the County engineer immediately if your route includes legal load reductions.

**DAYS/HOURS OF OPERATION**

1. Overweight vehicle/loads that are not over dimensional, traveling under the authority of a **SHP**, will not be restricted as to travel hours or days so long as the overweight vehicle/load can move without obstructing the normal flow of the traffic.

2. With the exception of permitted legal dimensioned overweight vehicle/loads noted in 1. above, vehicle/loads traveling under the authority of a **SHP** shall be prohibited from movement on the following days / weekends: **New Year's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day**. Prohibitions begin at noon the day preceding and continue until one-half hour before sunrise the day following the holiday or holiday weekend, with the exception of Good Friday, when the prohibition is Sunrise on Good Friday to Sunrise the following Monday..

3. Movement of all vehicles/loads in **excess of twelve feet** in width **shall be prohibited** during the following travel times:

Saturday from 3 P.M. until ½ hour before sunrise on the following Sunday.

Sunday from 3 P.M. until ½ hour before sunrise on the following Monday.

Friday from 3 P.M. until ½ hour before sunrise on the following Saturday (April 1 through November 30).

These time limitations are in addition to items 2 and 3 of the **Days/Hours of Operation**, above.

4. With the exception of limits noted in 1., 2., 3. and 4. above, permitted vehicles/loads may move daylight hours, Sunday through Saturday. Daylight hours are defined as one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset.

### WARNING FLAGS AND SIGNS

1. Warning flags shall be displayed on all over dimensional vehicles and loads. Warning flags shall be 18 inches square, red or orange in color, in good repair and free of printing or other markings and shall be securely fastened by at least one corner or securely mounted on a staff.

2. Over width vehicles and loads shall bear two flags at the widest extremities of the vehicle or load as well as one flag at each corner of the vehicle or load. Warning flags are not required to be displayed on the tractor.

3. Over length vehicles and loads or vehicles and loads with a rear overhang of 4 feet or greater shall display a single flat at the extreme rear if the over length or projecting part is two feet wide or less. Two flags shall be displayed if the over length or projecting portion is wider than two feet and the flags should be located to indicate maximum width.

4. Warning signs, when required shall be in good repair, shall read "**OVERSIZED LOAD**" and shall be at least 7 feet long and 18 inches high. The sign's background shall be yellow with black lettering. Letters shall be at least 10 inches high with a 1.41 inch brush stroke. If series E Modified is used, the brush stroke is to be two inches.

5. **OVERSIZE LOAD** signs shall be displayed on any vehicle or vehicle/load:  
 exceeding the maximum legal length limit a set in the Ohio Revised Code, section 5577.05,  
 with an overall width of **10 feet or greater**,  
 with and overall height in excess of **14 feet 6 inches**.

When required, **OVERSIZE LOAD** signs, shall be displayed on the front and rear of the over dimensional vehicle or vehicle/load.

### PRIVATE ESCORT VEHICLES

1. Private Escort vehicles, when required by a **SHP** to accompany an over dimensional or overweight vehicle or vehicle/load, shall be required to display a warning sign, yellow with black letters, reading "**OVERSIZE LOAD**". The sign shall be 5 feet long by 12 inches high with 8 inch high letters and shall be in good repair. Escort vehicles shall also be required to maintain radio communication with the operator of the permitted vehicle and shall also be required to be equipped with a roof mounted amber flashing or rotating light(s). Driver of the escort vehicle is to act as a flagger when needed. The Driver of an escort vehicle shall not serve as an operator of other vehicles or equipment while escorting a vehicle/load operating under a SHP. Unless otherwise specified on the SHP, Public Safety/Law Enforcement Vehicles shall not be considered to be Private Escorts.

2. **One rear** escort vehicle shall be required for the transportation of any vehicle/load with a **permitted length in excess of 90 feet**.

3. **One lead** (rear on multiple lane highways) escort vehicle shall be required for the transportation of any vehicle/load **with a permitted width in excess of 13 feet**.

4. **One lead** escort vehicle equipped with a **height sensing device** shall be required for the transportation of any vehicle/load with a **permitted height in excess of 14 feet 6 inches**.

5. **One lead and one rear** escort shall be required on any vehicle/load with a permitted **width in excess of 14 feet 6 inches**, or on any vehicle/load with a permitted height in **excess of 14 feet 10 inches**.
6. If more than one of the conditions set forth in numbers 2 through 4 above are met, (for example, a load with a permitted width exceeding 13 feet and a permitted length exceeding 90 feet) **two escorts** (one lead and one rear) shall be required.
7. Front and rear vehicles, when required, shall maintain a safe operating distance consistent with existing traffic conditions between the vehicle/load being escorted and the escort vehicle.
8. Escort vehicles shall be a single unit vehicle with unobstructed vision from the front and rear. Escort Vehicles when accompanying a vehicle/load operating under a SHP shall not tow a trailer or another vehicle, or haul equipment with extends beyond the dimensions of the escort vehicle.

#### **PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION**

1. Failure to comply with the **SHP** provisions or the general provisions (**RC-1A**), or exceeding the gross vehicle weight or exceeding an axle or axle group weight (by more than 2000 lbs.) or exceeding the dimensions granted, or operating on dates or times, or upon highways other than assigned, or whenever the SHP does not adequately describe the vehicle/load, **shall render the SHP null and void and the operator of the vehicle will be subject to enforcement action**, as provided in sections 5577.02 to 5577.05 inclusive, of the Ohio Revised Code.
2. A **SHP** should not be voided when a vehicle exceeds a granted axle weight by 2000 lbs or less, provided that the vehicle does not exceed the gross vehicle weight granted by the **SHP**. The enforcing officer shall instruct the driver to bring the vehicle into compliance with the **SHP** prior to substantial movement. If the load cannot be brought into compliance, the load may not move until a revised **SHP** is obtained. Should the vehicle be moved prior to the vehicle being brought into compliance or prior to a revised **SHP** being obtained, the **SHP shall be rendered null and void and the operator will be subject to enforcement action** as provided in sections 5577.02 to 5577.05 inclusive, of the Ohio Revised Code.
3. Moving violations for offenses that are relevant to the safe movement of a Commercial Motor Vehicle (for example, Speed, Reckless Operation, DUI, Improper Lane Change, etc.) **shall render the SHP null and void, and the operator subject to additional enforcement action**.

*These limitations and provisions describe the general requirements placed on the operation of over dimension and overweight vehicles traveling on Ohio's and Richland County's highways, and are in addition to specific provisions stated on the SHP or its attachments. For reference or detailed information, please refer to the Special Hauling Permits Operational Guide available on the Ohio Department of Transportation, Office of Maintenance Management Website, or at the office of the Richland County Engineer.*