

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT WEIGHT LIMITS

### 1. What roads in Logan County are legal for 80,000 lb trucks?

Based on recent legislation that took effect on January 1, 2010, the weight limit on all local roads became 80,000 lb. Some roadways and bridges have a reduced weight limit and have been posted accordingly. Please obey the posted weight limits to avoid damages and to avoid costly fines.

Although the weight restrictions have been revised, there are still restrictions on length. Many rural roads simply cannot provide the turning radius for long vehicles. Drivers will need to determine if their vehicle is allowed on non-designated routes.

Logan County has the following roads designated as Class I, II, and III highways:

Interstate I-155 & I-55.....	Class I
U.S. Rte 136.....	Class II
IL Rte 121 from I-55 to I-72.....	Class II
IL Rte 10.....	Class II
Old Rte 66 from Elkhart to Broadwell.....	Class II
700 <sup>th</sup> Ave. from Mat'l. Services Quarry to IL 10.....	Class III
IL Rte 54 from I-55 to I-57.....	Class II
Various municipal streets for product delivery.....	Class III

### 2. Are heavy trucks allowed access even during seasonal weight limits?

**No.** If the roadway is posted for specific or seasonal weight limits or for a posted bridge, that posted weight limit would govern. This is described further in the Vehicle Code where access on to a local road is granted provided there is no sign prohibiting that access. (ILCS 5/15-111)

### 3. What is a “divisible” load?

The term “divisible” load refers to the nature of the material or object being transported. By statute, an object is considered “non-divisible” if it cannot be reasonable dismantled or disassembled to decrease the gross weight of the load. Examples would include excavators, cranes, and large construction objects.

A divisible load would include material that could easily be divided into multiple trucks. This would decrease the gross weight of each individual load. Examples would include grain, manure, livestock, aggregate, etc.

4. What is an “implement of husbandry”?

The term “*implement of husbandry*” (625 ILCS 5/1 – 130) applies to vehicles designed and adapted exclusively for agriculture, horticulture or livestock raising, which includes tractors, wagons, etc., that are **under 36,000 lbs.** loaded weight. As soon as the non-permitted loaded vehicle goes over 36,000 lbs., it loses its exempt-from-weight-limit status as an “implement of husbandry”.

5. Does a grain cart, liquid manure tank, or even a large grain wagon still classify as an “implement of husbandry”?

If the gross vehicle weight is more than 36,000 lbs, it is no longer considered an “implement of husbandry”.

6. Can I use grain wagons to haul when Seasonal Weight Limits are in effect?

Grain wagons that have a gross weight of less than 36,000 lbs are considered “implements of husbandry.” The Seasonal Weight Limits only apply to licensed vehicles.

If grain wagons are used when the roadways are soft, we ask that good judgment be used. Wagons typically cause severe edge cracking when shoulders are not dry or frozen.

7. What damage is really done by heavy loads?

One local example is the damage to Connelly Road several years ago when traffic was detoured from IL State Route 10 to 5<sup>th</sup> Street Road. The oil & chip roadway was destroyed by the amount of heavy traffic in just a few weeks.

Other examples include most roadways in the vicinity of a large grain bin site or livestock farm. These are typically located on rural roads comprised of an aggregate base with an oil & chip surface. The most noticeable problem with these roads is rutting in wheel paths and turning vehicles. The road edges are typically broken off. And, the oil & chip surface usually has extensive cracking.

The Iowa Department of Transportation conducted a study on this. You can see the results for yourself. [www.dot.state.ia.us/agequip.pdf](http://www.dot.state.ia.us/agequip.pdf)

Pavements always need to be designed so they will be strong enough to handle traffic that is expected. Very few of the county highways in Logan County were designed for 80,000 lb traffic.

8. Who determines when a bridge gets a posted weight limit?

IDOT's Bureau of Bridges and Structures performs load rating analyses on certain bridges. Typically these are bridges that have low ratings on routine inspections. The local highway authority can also request ratings if they have specific concerns on a bridge.