

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

Number	Category	Statute
Chapter 340 Vehicles – General Provisions		
340.01(24)(a)	Implement of Husbandry	Means a vehicle or piece of equipment or machinery designed for agricultural purposes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ used exclusively in conduct of agricultural operations ▪ and used principally off the highway ▪ or a trailer-mounted bulk liquid fertilizer container.
340.01(24)(b)	Implement of Husbandry	Does not include any <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ motor truck, ▪ farm truck, ▪ road tractor, ▪ truck tractor, ▪ or farm truck tractor or such a vehicle combined with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a semi trailer, ▪ trailer, ▪ or farm trailer when the vehicle or combination is a commercial motor vehicle operated on the highway.
340.01(15n)	Dual purpose farm truck	Means a motor truck owned and operated by a farmer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ and used for transportation of supplies, farm equipment and products ▪ on the owner’s farm or between owner’s farm to market, ▪ and the transportation of supplies to the owner’s farm and ▪ also used in furtherance of any non-farm occupation, trade, profession or employment.
340.01(16)	Farm Tractor	Means a motor vehicle designed and used primarily as a farm implement for drawing plows, mowing machines and other implements of husbandry.
340.01(17)	Farm Trailer	Means a trailer or semitrailer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ with a gross weight greater than 3000 pounds ▪ which is owned or leased* and operated by a farmer ▪ and is used exclusively for the transportation of farm products from the owner’s farm to market or for the transportation of supplies to the owner’s farm. <p>* Leased means that the farmer has entered into a written agreement with a person in the business of leasing vehicles to lease the trailer or semitrailer for a period of one year or more.</p>

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

Number	Category	Statute
340.01(18a)	Farm Truck	<p>Means either of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A motor truck having a <u>gross weight of less than</u> 38,000 pounds that is owned or leased and operated by a farmer and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ used primarily for the transportation of supplies, farm equipment and the products of the owner’s farm or between his or her farms, the transportation of farm products from the owner’s farm to market, and the transportation of supplies to his or her farm. ▪ S. 341.045 This motor truck may be used for personal for family purposes if it meets the criteria of the second bullet point. A registered farm truck may not be used in furtherance of any nonfarm occupations, trade, professional or other employment including commuting to or from the place of such nonfarm occupation, trade, profession or employment. 2. A motor truck having a <u>gross weight greater than</u> 38,000 pounds that is owned or leased and operated by a farmer and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ used exclusively for the transportation of supplies, farm equipment and the products of the owner’s farm or between his or her farms, the transportation of farm products from the owner’s farm to market, and the transportation of supplies to his or her farm. ▪ S. 341.045 This motor truck not be used for personal for family purposes.
340.01(17)	Farm trailer	<p>Means a trailer or semitrailer with a gross weight greater than 3,000 pounds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ which is owned or leased and operated by a farmer and ▪ is used exclusively for the transportation of farm products from the owner’s farm to market or for the transportation of supplies to the owner’s farm. <p>In this subsection, “leased” means that the farmer has entered into a written agreement with a person in the business of leasing vehicles to lease the trailer or semitrailer for a period of one year or more.</p> <p>Note¹: Transporting animals to fairs or competitions where the animal is not sold requires a regular trailer plate.</p>

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

Number	Category	Statute
340.01 (18b)	Farm truck	<p>In this subsection,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the term “farmer” includes persons who are engaged in those activities specified in the definition of “operation of farm premises” contained in s. 102.04 (3), ▪ provided that such activities are directly or indirectly for the purpose of producing a commodity or commodities for market, or as an accessory to such production. <p>In this subsection, “leased” means that the farmer has entered into a written agreement with a person in the business of leasing vehicles to lease the motor truck for a period of one year or more.</p>
340.01 (18g)	Farm tractor truck	<p>Means a tractor truck that is owned or leased and operated by a farmer as defined in sub. (18), used exclusively for the transportation of supplies, farm equipment and products on the owner’s farm or between his or her farms, the transportation of farm products from the owner’s farm to market and the transportation of supplies to his or her farm and is exempt from payment of the heavy vehicle tax imposed by section 4481 of the internal revenue code.</p> <p>In this subsection, “leased” means that the farmer has entered into a written agreement with a person in the business of leasing vehicles to lease the truck tractor for a period of one year or more.</p>
340.01 (19g)	Gross combination weight rating	Means the value specified by the manufacturer as the loaded weight of a combination or articulated vehicle. In the absence of a value specified by the manufacturer, the gross combination weight rating of the power unit and the total weight of the towed unit and any carried load.
340.01 (19r)	Gross vehicle weight rating	Means the weight of the vehicle equipped for service plus the weight which the vehicle is carrying as a load.
340.01 (22)	Highway	<p>Means all public ways and thoroughfares and bridges on the same.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It includes the entire width between the boundary lines of every way open to the use of the public as a matter of right for the purposes of vehicular travel. ▪ It includes those roads or driveways in the state, county or municipal parks and in state forests which have been opened to the use of the public for the purpose of vehicular travel and roads or driveways upon the grounds of public schools, as defined in s. 115.01(1), and institutions under the jurisdiction of the county board of supervisors, but does not include private roads or driveways as defined in sub. (46)

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

Number	Category	Statute
340.01 (23)	Hours of darkness	Means the period of time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ from one-half hour after sunset ▪ to one-half hour before sunrise ▪ and all other times when there is not sufficient natural light ▪ to render clearly visible any person or vehicle upon a highway at a distance of 500 feet.
340.01 (41)	Operator	Means a person who drives or is in actual physical control of a vehicle.
Chapter 341 Registration of Vehicles		
341.045	Use of registered farm truck regulated	<p>A <u>motor truck under s.340.01 (18) (a) 1.</u> registered as a farm truck under s.341.26 (3) (a)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ may be used for personal and family purposes if the primary use of that motor truck is for purposes specified in s. 340.01(18(a) 1., ▪ except that a registered farm truck may not be used in furtherance of any nonfarm occupation, trade, profession or other employment, ▪ including commuting to or from the place of such nonfarm occupation, trade, profession or employment. <p>A <u>motor truck under s.340.01 (18) (a) 2.</u> may not be used for personal and family purposes.</p> <p>This section does not apply to dual purpose farm trucks registered under 341.26 (3)(am). Any violations of this section are subject to the penalty prescribed for violations of s.341.04 (2).</p>

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

Number	Category	Statute
341.05	When vehicles exempt from registration	<p>A vehicle , even though operated upon a highway of this state, is exempt from registration if any of the following applies:</p> <p>(7) The vehicle is a farm tractor used exclusively in agricultural operations, including threshing, or used exclusively to provide power to drive other machinery, or to transport from job to job machinery driven by a farm tractor.</p> <p>(9) The vehicle is a trailer or semitrailer used exclusively for the transportation of farm machinery, implements, produce or supplies on a farm or between farms.</p> <p>(13m) The vehicle is a trailer, semitrailer or camping trailer having a gross weight of 3,000 pounds or less and not used for hire or rental.</p> <p>(17) The vehicle is an implement of husbandry, s.340.01(24).</p> <p>(28) Notwithstanding s.341.26 (3)(ar), the vehicle is a farm truck tractor being operated solely in intrastate transportation and in transporting manure, grains, silage, haylage, or equipment between fields or between a farm and a field at the time of operation or is being operated from its point of purchase to the operator’s farm. This subsection does not apply to transportation by a common motor carrier or a contract motor carrier.</p> <p>Note: Trucks with permanently mounted potato boxes and special low ratio gearing used solely to collect and transport potatoes in harvest and planting seasons are “implements of husbandry” exempt from registration under sub.(17). State v. Okay Produce Co.</p>
Chapter 343 Operators’ Licenses		
343.05(4)(a)(2)	Regular driver’s license	<p>(4) Exemptions. (a) The following are exempt from the licensing requirements of this chapter:</p> <p>(2) A person while temporarily operating or moving a farm tractor or implement of husbandry on a highway between fields or between a farm and a field.</p> <p>Note¹: Any other operation of an implement of husbandry requires a valid license, e.g. If a driver lost his/her license to operate a car or truck, he/she couldn’t operate a farm tractor for nonfarm purposes.</p>

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

Number	Category	Statute
343.055(1)(c)	Commercial driver license waivers	<p>Operators waived. (a) General. Except as provided in subs (3) and (4) and notwithstanding s.343.05(2), operators of certain commercial vehicles specified in pars. (b) to (h) or any rule of the department promulgated under sub.(5) are not required to hold commercial drivers licenses, if the operator holds a valid operator’s license not limited to “Class M” vehicles.</p> <p>(c) Farmers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The operator of the commercial motor vehicle is a farmer who is using the commercial motor vehicle within 150 miles of the operator’s farm ▪ to transport agricultural products, farm machinery or farm supplies including transporting hazardous materials requiring placarding or a combination thereof to or from a farm ▪ and the commercial motor vehicle is operated and controlled by a farmer and ▪ not used in operations of a common motor carrier or contract motor carrier, as defined in s. 194.01(1) and (2). ▪ In this paragraph “controlled means leased or owned; and “farmer” and “leased” have the meanings given in s.340.01(18)(b).
<p>Chapter 346 Rules of the Road This chapter has the rules related to stopping, turning, overtaking vehicles and reporting accidents.</p>		
346.05(3)	Vehicles to be driven on right side of roadway; exceptions	<p>Any vehicle proceeding upon a roadway at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ shall be driven in the right-hand lane then available for traffic, or as close as practicable to the right-hand edge or curb of the roadway, ▪ except when overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction or ▪ when preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway, ▪ and except as provided in s.346.072.
346.21	Right –of-way livestock	The operator of a motor vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to livestock being driven over or along any highway but any person in charge of such livestock shall use reasonable care and diligence to open the roadway for vehicular traffic.
346.32	Required position for turning into private road or driveway	The operator of a vehicle on a highway who intends to turn into a private road or driveway shall make the approach for the turn in the same manner as specified in s.346.31 for vehicles making an approach for a right or left turn at an intersection. If, because of the size of the vehicle or nature of the intersecting private road or driveway, the turn cannot be made from the specified lane of approach, the turn shall be made with due regard for all other traffic .

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

Number	Category	Statute
346.59(1)	Minimum speed regulation	No person shall drive a motor vehicle at a speed so slow as to impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic except when reduced speed is necessary for safe operation or is necessary to comply with the law.
346.59(2)	Minimum speed regulation	The operator of a vehicle moving at a speed so slow as to impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic shall, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ if practicable, yield the roadway to an overtaking vehicle ▪ whenever the operator of the overtaking vehicle gives audible warning with a warning device and shall move at a reasonable increased speed or ▪ yield the roadway to overtaking vehicles when directed to do so by a traffic officer.
346.922(1)	Transporting children in cargo areas of motor trucks	Notwithstanding s.346.92, no person may operate upon a highway a motor truck having a gross weight of 10,000 pounds or less when any child under the age of 16 years is in an open cargo area of the motor truck.
346.922(2)(a)	Transporting children in cargo areas of motor trucks	Subsection (1) does not apply to any of the following: (a) A person operating a farm truck in conjunction with farm operations.
346.925(1)	Operation of agricultural machinery by youthful operators	No person may direct or permit a child under the age of 16 years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ to operate a farm tractor or self-propelled implement of husbandry on the highway ▪ unless the child has been certified under s.36.25(32)(a)2. ▪ as successfully completing a tractor and machinery safety training course that is the equivalent to the requirements, other than age, specified under 29CFR 570 to 570.072.
346.925(2)	Operation of agricultural machinery by youthful operators	Subsection (1) does not apply to operation of a farm tractor or self-propelled implement of husbandry on the highway on a course that is perpendicular to the direction of the highway.

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

Chapter 347 Equipment of Vehicles		
347.02	Applicability of chapter	(1) No provision of this chapter requiring vehicles to be equipped in a particular manner is applicable to any of the following vehicles unless the vehicle is expressly included within or made subject to the particular provisions: (a) Farm tractors and self-propelled farm implements (b) Implements of husbandry (c) Vehicles drawn by animals.
347.21(1)	Lamps and flags on trains of agricultural vehicles	No person shall operate on a highway during the hours of darkness any train of vehicles authorized by s.348.08(1) (d) unless <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ there is mounted on each side of every vehicle in such train, including farm tractors and implements of husbandry, ▪ at least one lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the side of the vehicle on which mounted ▪ or, in lieu thereof, at least one red reflector or, notwithstanding s. 347.245, ▪ one slow moving vehicle emblem visible from all distances within 500 feet to 50 feet of the side of the vehicle when directly in front of lawful upper beams of headlamps.
347.21(2)	Flags on Ag Trains- Daylight	No person shall operate on a highway, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ at times other than hours of darkness, ▪ any train of agricultural vehicles authorized by s.348.08 (1)(b) ▪ unless there is displayed a red flag at least 12 inches square ▪ on each rear corner of the rearmost vehicle in the train.
347.22(1)	Lamps on farm tractors and SPFI	No person shall operate or park a farm tractor or self-propelled farm implement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ upon a highway during hours of darkness ▪ unless such tractor or implement carries the lighted headlamps and tail lamps ▪ which would be required of other motor vehicles under similar circumstances.
347.22(2)	Lamps on farm tractors and SPFI	No person shall operate or park a farm tractor or self-propelled farm implement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ upon a highway during hours of darkness ▪ with any lamp thereon showing any light to the rear other than red in color.

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

347.24(1)(a)	Lamps and reflectors on non motor vehicles and equipment	<p>Except as provided under pars.(b) and (c), no person may operate on a highway during hours of darkness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any implement of husbandry or any other vehicle not specifically required by law to be equipped with lamps or other lighting devices unless such implement or vehicle is equipped with ▪ at least 2 lighted lamps or lanterns exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet ahead and ▪ 2 lighted lamps or lanterns exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear or, ▪ as an alternative to the red lamps or lanterns, 2 red reflectors mounted as specified in s.347.18 and meeting the visibility requirements of s.347.10 may be displayed on the rear of such vehicle or implement of husbandry.
347.24(1)(am)	Lamps and reflectors on non motor vehicles and equipment	<p>No person may operate on a highway during hours of darkness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ any implement any implement of husbandry that extends 4 feet or more to the left of the center line of its towing vehicle ▪ unless the implement is equipped with an amber reflector meeting the visibility requirements of s. 347.19 and ▪ mounted on the left side, facing forward, so as to mark the extreme width of the implement to drivers of oncoming vehicles.
347.24(1)(b)	Lamps and reflectors on non motor vehicles and equipment	<p>Any implement of husbandry or other vehicle not specifically required by law to be equipped with lamps or other lighting device and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ which was manufactured on or before January 1, 1984, ▪ shall comply with the lamp requirements of s.347.24(1), 1981 stats.
347.24(1)(c)	Lamps and reflectors on non motor vehicles and equipment - atv	<p>An implement of husbandry which is an all-terrain vehicle need only comply with the lamp requirements established under s.23.33(6).</p>
347.24(2)	Lamps and reflectors on non motor vehicles and equipment- drawn by animals	<p>No person may operate on a highway during hours of darkness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a vehicle drawn by an animal ▪ unless the vehicle is equipped with at least one lighted lamp or lantern exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet ahead ▪ and 2 lighted lamps or lanterns exhibiting red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear and ▪ mounted in such a manner as to indicate the extreme width of the vehicle.

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

347.245(1)	Identification emblem on certain slow moving vehicles	<p>After January 1, 1970, no person may operate on a highway</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ day or night, ▪ any vehicle or equipment, any animal-drawn vehicle, or any other machinery, including all road machinery, ▪ that usually travels at speeds of less than 25 miles per hour or any vehicle operated under a special restricted operator's license issued under 343.135, ▪ unless there is displayed on the most practicable visible rear area of the vehicle or combination of vehicles, a slow moving vehicle (SMV) emblem as described in and displayed as provided in sub.(2). ▪ Any towed vehicle or machine is exempt from this provision if the towing vehicle is visible from the rear and is in compliance with this section. ▪ Except as provided in s.347.21(1), the requirement of the emblem shall be in addition to any lighting devices required or permitted by law. ▪ The SMV emblem need not be displayed on vehicles moving directly across the highway.
347.245(2)	Identification emblem on certain slow moving vehicles	Standards and specifications for the design and position of mounting the SMV emblem shall be established by rule by the secretary. Except as provided in s.347.21(1), the standards and specification for SMV emblems shall correlate with and, so far as possible, conform with those approved by the American Society of agricultural engineers.
347.245(3)	Identification emblem on certain slow moving vehicles	<p>No person shall display such emblem on a roadway, except as provided in sub.(1),</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ nor on roadside stationary objects such as mailboxes or signposts and ▪ no such emblem shall be used as a clearance marker for wide vehicles. ▪ No slow moving vehicle actually engaged in construction or maintenance guarded by a flagman or clearly visible warning signs need remove the slow moving vehicle emblem.
347.245(5)	Identification emblem on certain slow moving vehicles	This section does not apply to any vehicle or combination of vehicles to the left rear of which is attached a yellow or amber flashing light at least 4 inches in diameter.

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

Number	Category	Statute
Chapter 348 Vehicles – Size, Weight and Load		
No general exemption for farmers and implements of husbandry in this chapter. No extra weight allowed for farmers.		
348.05(1)	Width of vehicles	No person without a permit therefore shall operate on a highway any vehicle having a total width in excess of 8 feet 6 inches , except as otherwise provided in this section.
348.05(2)(a)	Width of vehicles	The following vehicles may be operated without a permit for excessive width if the total outside width does not exceed the indicated limitations: No limitations for implements of husbandry temporarily operated upon a highway in the course of performance of its work.
348.05(2)(c)	Width of vehicles	Twelve feet for farm tractors, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ except that the total outside width of a farm tractor shall not exceed 9 feet when operated on any Wisconsin highway, ▪ other than portion of USH 51 between Wausau and STH 78 and that portion of STH 78 between USH 51 and the I 90/94 interchange near Portage upon their federal designation as I 39, that is part of the national system of interstate and defense highways.
348.05(L)	Width of vehicles	Twelve feet for loads of hay in bales and, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ from September 15 to December 15 of each year for loads of Christmas trees from the point of harvesting or staging to a Christmas tree yard or point of commercial shipment, ▪ if the total outside width of the loads do not exceed the width of a single traffic lane of any highway over which the loads are carried. ▪ This paragraph does not apply to vehicles on highways designated as parts of the national system of interstate and defense highways under s.84.29.

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

Number	Category	Statute
348.05(03)	Width of vehicles	<p>Farm tractors exceeding 12 feet in width and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ all other farm machinery and implements of husbandry exceeding 8 feet 6 inches in width being operated in the course of performance of its work ▪ may be moved, towed, or hauled over the highways without a special permit issued under s.348.27(14) between one-half hour before sunrise and sunset on Mondays to Thursdays and one-half hour before sunrise to 2 pm on Fridays. ▪ Such overwidth machinery shall not be moved, towed or hauled on any Wisconsin highway, other than any overwidth machinery that is not a commercial motor vehicle on that portion of USH 51 between Wausau and STH 78 and that portion of STH 78 between USH 51 and the I 90/94 interchange near Portage upon their federal designation as I 39, which is part of the national system of interstate and defense highways without a special permit issued under s. 348.27(14).
348.06(1)	Height of vehicles	<p>Except as provided in subs. (2) and (2m),</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ no person, ▪ without a permit therefore, ▪ may operate on a highway any motor vehicle, mobile home, trailer or semitrailer ▪ having an overall height in excess for 13 ½ feet.
348.06(2)	Height of vehicles	<p>Implements of husbandry of any height</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ may be temporarily operated upon a highway ▪ without permit for excessive height.
348.06(3)	Height of vehicles	<p>The limitations on total height stated in this section shall be construed as requiring a clearance of such height or as relieving the owners of vehicles not exceeding such total height from liability for any damage.</p>
348.07(1)	Length of vehicles	<p>No person, without a permit therefore,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ may operate on a highway any single vehicle with an overall length in excess of 40 feet or ▪ any combination of 2 vehicles with an overall length in excess of 65 feet, ▪ except as otherwise provided in subs.(2) and (2a).
348.07(2)(e)	Length of vehicles	<p>The following vehicles may be operated without a permit for excessive length if the overall length does not exceed the indicated limitations:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(e) No limitations for implements of husbandry temporarily operated upon a highway.</p>

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

Number	Category	Statute
348.08(1)(b)	Vehicle trains	<p>No person, without a permit therefore shall operate on a highway any motor vehicle drawing or having attached thereto more than one vehicle, except that:</p> <p>(b) Two trailers used primarily as implements of husbandry in connection with seasonal agricultural activities or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ one such trailer and any other implement of husbandry may, ▪ without such permit, ▪ be drawn by a farm tractor if the operation of such combination of vehicles is exclusively a farming operation and not for the transportation of property for hire and ▪ if the overall length of such combination of vehicles does not exceed 60 feet.
348.08(d)	Vehicle Trains	<p>Two trailers transporting empty pressurized or nonpressurized tanks used for hauling or storing liquid agricultural fertilizer or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2 implements of husbandry, including 2 empty trailers used primarily as implements of husbandry in connection with seasonal agricultural activities, ▪ may, without such permit, ▪ be drawn by a motor truck or truck tractor ▪ if the overall length of such combination of vehicles and load does not exceed 60 feet. ▪ For purposes, of this paragraph, “empty” means less than 20% full.
348.08(2)	Vehicle Trains	<p>Whenever any train of agricultural vehicles is being operated under sub.(1)(b),</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the train shall be equipped as provided in s. 347.21 (1) and (2). ▪ The trailer hitches of a train of agricultural vehicles shall be of a positive nature so as to prevent accidental release.
348.09(1)	Projecting loads on side of vehicles	<p>No person, without a permit therefore,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ may operate on a highway any motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer carrying any load extending beyond the fender line on the left side or ▪ extending more than 6 inches beyond the fender line on the right side of the vehicle.
348.09(2)	Projecting loads on side of vehicles	<p>This section applies even though the total width of the vehicle and load does not exceed the maximum permitted under s.348.05.</p> <p>Note ²: Maximum is 8 feet 6 inches per s.348.05</p>

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

Number	Category	Statute
348.10(1)	Special limitations on load	No person, without a permit therefore, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ may operate on a highway any vehicle or combination of vehicles with any load thereon extending more than 3 feet beyond the front of the foremost vehicle, ▪ except as provided in s.348.07(2)(j), and ▪ except that a vehicle carrying another vehicle equipped with a crane or boom which extends more than 3 feet beyond the front of the foremost vehicle may be operated without permit ▪ if the total length of the vehicle or combination of vehicles, measuring from the end of the foremost projection of the load to the rear of the rearmost vehicle, does not exceed statutory length limitations.
348.08(2)	Special limitations on load	No persons shall operate a vehicle on a highway unless such vehicle is so constructed and loaded as to prevent its contents from dropping, sifting, leaking or otherwise escaping therefrom.
348.08(4)	Special limitations on load	All provisions notwithstanding, no person shall operate on a highway any trailer or semitrailer when the gross weight of the trailer or semitrailer exceeds the empty weight of the towing vehicle, unless the trailer or semitrailer is equipped with brakes as provided in s. 34735(3) (a) and (b).
348.08(5)	Special limitations on load	The load imposed on trailers or semitrailers shall be distributed in a manner that will prevent side sway under all conditions of operation:
348.08(5)(a)	Special limitations on load	All items of load carried by any trailer, semitrailer or mobile home, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ except bulk material such as sand, gravel, dirt not in containers, ▪ shall be secured to, on or in the trailer in such manner as to prevent shifting of the load while the trailer or mobile home is being drawn by a towing vehicle. <p>Note ¹: Gravity is not a securement method.</p>
348.10(5)(c)	Special limitations on load	The load carried by any trailer, semitrailer or mobile home <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ shall be so positioned that a weight of not less than 35 pounds, ▪ is imposed at the center of the point of attachment to the towing vehicle, ▪ when parked on a level surface.
348.15(1)	Weight limitations on class "A" highways	In this section "class A" includes all state trunk highways and connecting highways and those county trunk highways, town highways and city and village streets, or portions thereof, that have been designated as class "B" highways pursuant to s.349.15.

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

Number	Category	Statute
348.15(3)	Weight limitations on class "A" highways	Subject to any modifications made by a 1 st class city under s349.15(3) and except as provided in s. 348.17(5), no person, without a permit, may operate on a class "A" highway any vehicle or combination of vehicles unless the vehicle or combination of vehicles complies with the following weight limitations:
348.15(3)(a)	Weight limitations on class "A" highways	The gross weight imposed on the highway by one wheel or multiple wheels supporting one end of an axle may exceed 11,000 pounds .
348.15(3)(b)	Weight limitations on class "A" highways	The gross weight imposed on the highway by the wheels of any one axle may not exceed 20,000 pounds . In addition, the gross weight imposed on the highway by the wheels of the steering axle of a truck tractor may not exceed 13,000 pounds unless the manufacturer's rated capacity of the axle and the tires is sufficient to carry the with, but not to exceed 20,000 pounds .
348.15(3)(c)	Weight limitations on class "A" highways	The gross weight imposed on the highway by any group of 2 or more consecutive axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles may not exceed the maximum gross weights in the following table for each of the respective distances between axles and respective number of axles of a group. Note ² : see Figure 348.15 for complete table.
348.15(3)(d)	Weight limitations on class "A" highways	Notwithstanding par.(c), 2 consecutive sets of tandem axles may impose on the highway a gross load of 34,000 pounds each if the overall distance between the first and last axles of such consecutive sets of tandem axles is 36 feet or more.
348.15(3)(e)	Weight limitations on class "A" highways	Notwithstanding par. (a),(b), and (c), <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ in the case of a vehicle or combination of vehicles transporting exclusively livestock, ▪ the gross weight imposed on the highway by the wheels of any one axle or axle group may exceed the applicable with limitations specified in pars. (a), (b) and (c) by 15% ▪ if the gross weight of the vehicle or combination of vehicles does not exceed the maximum gross weight specified for that vehicle or combination of vehicles under par.(c). <p>This paragraph does not apply to the national system of interstate and defense highways, except for that portion of USH 51 between Wausau and STH 78 and that portion of STH 78 between USH 51 and the I 90/94 interchange near Portage upon their federal designation as I 39.</p>
348.15(4)	Weight limitations on class "A" highways	Notwithstanding the possibility of increased weight on a particular wheel or axle or group of axles due to practical operation problems, including, but not limited to, accumulation of snow, ice, mud or dirt, the use of tire chains or minor shifting of load, the maximum weights set forth

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

Number	Category	Statute
		in sub. (3) include absolutely all weights allowable.
348.15(5)	Weight limitations on class "A" highways	See this section for enforcement of weight limitations.
348.16(1)(b)	Weight limitations on class "B" highways	"Class 'B' highway" includes those county trunk highways, town highways an city and village streets, or portions thereof, which have been designated as class "B" highways by the local authorities pursuant to s.349.15.
348.16(2)	Weight limitations on class "B" highways	Except as provided in sub.(3) and s. 348.175 and subject to any modifications made by a city of the first class pursuant to s.349.15(3), <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ no person, without a permit therefore, ▪ shall operate on a class "B" highway any vehicle or combination of vehicles imposing wheel, axle, group of axles, or gross weight on the highway ▪ exceeding 60 percent of the weights authorized in s. 348.15.
348.16(3)	Weight limitations on class "B" highways	Any motor vehicle whose operation is pickup or delivery , <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ including operation for the purpose of moving or delivering supplies or commodities ▪ to or from any place of business or residence that has an entrance on a class "B" highway, ▪ may pick up or deliver on a class "B" highway without complying with the gross vehicle weight limitations imposed by sub. (2).
348.17(1)	Special or seasonal weight limitations	No person, whether operating under a permit or otherwise, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ shall operate a vehicle in violation of special weight limitations imposed by state and local authorities on particular highways, highway structures or portions of highways ▪ when signs have been erected as required by s. 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.
348.17(2)	Special or seasonal weight limitations	Whenever the operator of a vehicle is ordered by the officer or agency in charge of maintenance or by a traffic officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ to suspend operation of such vehicle because of the damage such vehicle is causing or likely to cause to the highway or public investment therein, ▪ the operator shall forthwith comply with such order.

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

Number	Category	Statute
348.17(5)	Special or seasonal weight limitations	<p>From September 1 to November 30 of each year,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ no permit shall be required for the transportation of corn, soybeans, potatoes, vegetables, or cranberries ▪ from the field to storage on the grower's owned or leased land, from the field to initial storage at a location not owned or leased by the grower, or from the field to initial processing ▪ in a vehicle or combination of vehicles having a registered gross weight of 50,000 pounds or more or described in s.340.01 (24)(b) that exceeds the weight limitations under s.348.15 by not more than 15 percent. ▪ This subsection does not apply to the national system of interstate and defense highways, except that portion of I39 between USH 51 and I 90/94.
348.20	Policy in prosecuting weight violations	See statutes.
348.21	Penalty for violating weight limitations	See statutes.
348.27(9m)(a)	Transportation of Raw Forest and Agricultural	The department may issue annual or consecutive month permits for the transportation of any of the following:
348.27(9m)(a)(1)	Transportation of Raw Forest and Agricultural Products	<p>Fruits or vegetables from field to storage or processing facilities in vehicles or vehicle combinations that exceed the maximum gross weight limitations under s. 348.15(3)(c) by not more than 10,000 pounds.</p> <p>A permit under this subdivision is not valid on highways designated as part of the national system of interstate and defense highways, except on I 30 between STH 29 south of Wausau and I90/94 interchange near Portage in Marathon, Portage, Waushara, Marquette and Columbia counties.</p> <p>No permit authorizing the transportation of raw forest products issued under this subdivision is valid after January 1, 2011.</p>

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

Number	Category	Statute
348.27(9m)(a)(2)	Transportation of Raw Forest and Agricultural Products	<p>Bulk potatoes from storage facilities to rail loading facilities in vehicle combinations that exceed the maximum gross weight limitations under s. 348.15(3)(c) by not more than 10,000 pounds.</p> <p>A permit under this subdivision shall be valid only on USH 51 between CTH “V” and CTH “B” in Waushara and Portage counties, and for a distance not to exceed 15 miles from that portion of USH 51</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ in order to obtain access to USH 51 ▪ or to reach fuel, food, maintenance, repair, rest, staging, terminal facilities or points of loading and unloading.
348.27(9m)(a)(3)	Transportation of Raw Forest and Agricultural Products	<p>Bulk potatoes from storage facilities to food processing facilities in vehicles or vehicle combinations that exceed the maximum gross weight limitations under s. 348.15(3)(c) by not more than 10,000 pounds.</p> <p>A permit under this subdivision is not valid on highways designated as part of the national system of interstate and defense highways, except to the extent permitted by federal law without any loss or reduction of federal aid or other sanction.</p>
348.27(9m)(b)	Transportation of Raw Forest and Agricultural Products	<p>A permit issued under par.(a) 1. to 3. does not authorize the operation of any vehicle or vehicle combination at a maximum gross weight in excess of 90,000 pounds.</p>

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

Number	Category	Statute
348.27(9t)	Transportation of Potatoes	<p>The department may issue annual or consecutive month permits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ for the transportation of potatoes intended for use as seed in specially configured vehicle combinations ▪ that exceed the maximum gross weight limitations under s.348.15(3)(c) by not more than 10,000 pounds. <p>A permit issued under this subsection does not authorize the operation of any vehicle between CTH “H” and USH 41 in Langlade, Oconto, and Marinette counties;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ USH 41 between STH 64 and the Wisconsin-Michigan border; ▪ and any highway for a distance not to exceed 15 miles from any portion of STH 64 or USH 41 specified in this subsection in order to obtain access to STH 64 or USH 41 ▪ or to reach fuel, food, maintenance, repair, rest, staging, terminal facilities or points of loading or unloading. <p>The department shall establish by rule configuration requirements for vehicle combinations under this subsection and such requirements may permit vehicle combinations to exceed the length requirements of s. 348.07.</p> <p>The department may establish by rule an alternative route for any portion of a highway specified in this subsection.</p>
348.27(10)	Transportation of Grain or Coal or Iron	<p>The department may issue annual or consecutive month permits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ for the transportation of loads of grain, as defined in s. 126.01(13), coal, iron ore concentrates or alloyed iron ▪ on a vehicle or a combination of 2 or more vehicles that exceed statutory weight or length limitations ▪ and for the return of the empty vehicle or combination of vehicles over any class of highway for a distance not to exceed 5 miles from the Wisconsin state line. <p>If the roads desired to be used by the applicants involve streets or 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.</p> <p>This subsection does not apply to highways designated as part of the national system of interstate and defense highways.</p>

Wisconsin Statutes Related to Agricultural Equipment Operating on Public Roads

Number	Category	Statute
348.27(11)(a)	Agricultural Emergency Permits	<p>If the secretary of agriculture, trade, and consumer protection determines that an agricultural emergency exists,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the secretary of transportation may authorize the issuance of permits to allow vehicles ▪ that are transporting loads of hay in bales and, ▪ from September 15 to December 15 of each year, loads of Christmas trees from the point of harvesting or staging to a Christmas tree yard or point of commercial shipment ▪ to exceed the width limitations under s. 348.05(1) if the total outside width does not exceed 12 feet. <p>This authorization is limited to the operation of commercial motor vehicles upon routes of the national system of interstate and defense highways.</p>
348.27(14)	Farm Machinery Permits	<p>The department may issue annual or consecutive month permits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ for the movement, towing or hauling of farm tractors exceeding 12 feet in width and ▪ all other farm machinery and implements of husbandry exceeding 8 feet 6 inches in width ▪ not being operated in the course of performance of its work ▪ on highways designated as part of the national system of interstate and defense highways. <p>A permit under this subsection is not required for the movement, towing, or hauling of any overwidth machinery that is not a commercial motor vehicle and which is authorized by s. 348.05(3) on that portion of USH 51 between Wausau and STH 78 between USH 51 and I 90/94 interchange near Portage upon their federal designation as I 39.</p>

Note ¹: This information from a presentation by Sergeant Mike Klingenberg, WI State Patrol, Requirements for Farm Machinery on Public Roads, 2007 WI Custom Operators, PNAAW and Midwest Forage Association Conference, January 31, 2007.

Note ²: Please see the original WI Statute chapter for additional information.