



Road
Commission
of Kalamazoo
County

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Joanna Johnson, Managing Director
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Seasonal Weight Restrictions to Begin

Seasonal weight restrictions will be in effect, **Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:00 a.m.**, for county roads not designated as all-season roads.

The weight restrictions, which reduce normal legal loads, apply only to multiple-axle vehicles, not pickup trucks or passenger cars. Seasonal weight restrictions lower axle-loading limits and reduce maximum travel speeds for certain vehicles. [Click here](#) for details about seasonal weight restrictions and their effect on axle loading and speed limits.

Designed to prevent roadway damage, the restrictions usually are temporary and are lifted once the spring thaw ends. An all-season road is built to a higher standard and can withstand large trucks during the spring thaw season.

Weight restrictions are enforced to minimize the damage caused during Michigan's seasonal thaw. As the ground thaws in the spring, water is forced toward the surface and exerts pressure on roads, causing them to buckle and become more prone to damage. The heavier the vehicle, the greater possible harm to roads. During the weight restriction period, trucks traveling on "posted" roads must carry lighter loads and travel at slower speeds.

For immediate updates, please call the Road Commission "Seasonal Weight Restriction Hot Line" at 381-3170 Extension 251.

For an all season roads/map, please visit the Road Commission website
<http://www.kalamazooountyroads.com/engineering>

For seasonal weight restriction information statewide, please visit the County Road Association of MI website <http://www.micountyroads.org/Doing-Business/Seasonal-Weight-Restriction>

Three Facts about Michigan's "Frost Laws":

- Most local agencies restriction period is significantly less than the 13 week period in Michigan law.
- During the weight restriction period trucks traveling on "posted/restricted" roads must reduce speeds to 35 M.P.H. and carry lighter loads. Those using "all season" roads can haul normal legal loads.
- Most northern states and all Canadian Provinces also utilize road seasonal weight restrictions on their roads.

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