



Mountain Loggers Cooperative Assoc.
Terra Alta, WV 26764

Association of Forest Industries
Huntingtown, MD 20639



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**Exceptional Hauling Permits
for
Forest Products
in
Allegany and Garrett Counties**



For Permit Information:

Sgt. Terry Fischer
Maryland State Police
Finzel Scale House
(301) 689-1850



Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Tawes State Office Building
580 Taylor Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21401
Phone 410-260-8531, Forest Service
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(800) 735-2258 (Out of State)
Toll Free#: 1-877-620-8DNR ext 8531
<http://www.dnr.maryland.gov>

As a result of the cooperative efforts of the Mountain Loggers Cooperative Association (MLCA) and Association of Forest Industries (AFI), Inc. working with the Maryland Department of Transportation's State Highway Administration (SHA), truck weight limits have been increased for forestry products originating in the field or other off-highway locations. These changes occurred as Maryland House Bill 1583 and became effective June 1, 2006. The law is primarily designed to increase safety on Maryland roads by adding braking capacity and requiring semi-annual Level 1 inspections.

The facilities and services of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources are available to all without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin, physical or mental disability.

This document is available in alternative format upon request from a qualified individual with a disability.

The **highlights** of the legislation are:

- Gross weight is capped at 87,000 lbs plus a 1,000 lb tolerance.
- The law applies only to 6 or more axle vehicle combinations. (Tri-axle trucks with a pup trailer qualify under this law).
- The load must consist only of forest products loaded in the field or other off-highway location.
- An "Exceptional Hauling Permit" is required to take advantage of the new law and increased weight limits.
- Permits are valid for 12 months from the date of issue.
- The law is valid only in Garrett and Allegany Counties in Maryland.
- The "Exceptional Hauling Permit" will be issued to the truck/tractor and the original must be in the operator's possession.
- The "Exceptional Hauling Permit" is not valid unless accompanied by a Level 1 inspection report (showing NO out of service violations), issued within the previous 180 days, for each vehicle of the combination. Valid Level 1 inspections from other States are acceptable. Valid copies of Level 1 inspections for each vehicle in the combination are acceptable.
- Anyone with an "Exceptional Hauling Permit" must still obey all highway use restrictions.
- The "Exceptional Hauling Permit" is NOT valid on the Interstate Highway System.
- The law established this program as a pilot project, which ends on May 31, 2010, unless otherwise extended by the Maryland General Assembly.

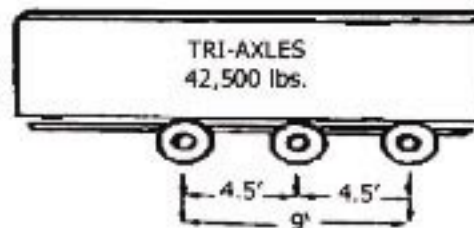
- A fee of \$500 will be assessed for a new permit or for the annual permit renewal.

Weight Limitations and Tolerances

- In addition to the 87,000 lb gross weight plus the 1,000 lb tolerance, the following axle weight tolerances apply.
- Maximum weight on a Single Axle = 20,000 lbs + 15%
- For consecutive axle configurations of two or more axles maximum weight = Federal Bridge Formula + 15%
- No other tolerances apply to this program
- The Federal Inner Bridge Measurement/Weight Limit Does Not Apply.

Vehicle Dimension Requirements

- Front to rear axle spacing must not be less than 50'.
- For tri-axes the distance between the extremes of the 3 axles must be more than 8' to be of value. At 8' the weight limitation is 34,000 lbs. At 8' 1" the weight limitation is 42,000 lbs. At 9' the weight limit is 42,500 lbs.
- Measurement will be to the nearest foot for purposes of the "Exceptional Hauling Permit" unless otherwise specified by statute or regulation.



Sanctions for Permit Violations

- Any violation of the terms of the "Exceptional Hauling Permit" voids the permit.

A voided permit subjects the vehicle to standard weight limitations and tolerances for that particular vehicle configuration. Automatic off-load requirements will be in effect.
- For a weight restriction violation exceeding 5,000 lbs. (i.e., gross vehicle weight more than 93,000 lbs.) the "Exceptional Hauling Permit" can be immediately confiscated. The "Exceptional Hauling Permit" will be revoked by the State Highway Administration upon determination that the overweight violation occurred.

For the first overweight offense, a fee of \$1,000 will be assessed for another permit.

For the second overweight offense within 24 months, a fee of \$5,000 will be assessed for another permit.

Reporting Requirements

- Permit holders may be required by SHA to provide load receipts for permit loads.
- Receiving facilities may be required by SHA to provide load ticket information on incoming permit loads. Non-permit loads will not be subject to reporting requirements of SB 1583.

