

Chapter 15

Motor Vehicles and Traffic

Part 1 Speed Limits

- §15-101. Speed Limit
- §15-102. Posting Signs
- §15-103. Penalties

Part 2 Weight Limits

A. Motor Vehicle Weight and Size Limitation and Bonding

- §15-201. Short Title
- §15-202. Enactment
- §15-203. Definitions
- §15-204. Section 4902(a) Findings of the Board of Supervisors of Covington Township
- §15-205. Vehicle Weight and Size Limits Established
- §15-206. Section 4902(b) Findings of the Board of Supervisors of Covington Township
- §15-207. Section 4902(b) Vehicle Weight and Size Limits Established
- §15-208. Exemptions
- §15-209. Permits and Security
- §15-210. Erection of Signs
- §15-211. Penalties
- Exhibit 15-2A-A

B. Oversize and/or Overweight Vehicles on Township Owned Roads

- §15-221. Short Title
- §15-222. Hauling Permit
- §15-223. Definition
- §15-224. Permit Fees
- §15-225. Application for Moving Vehicle
- §15-226. Proof of Liability Insurance
- §15-227. Applicant Liability
- §15-228. Hours of Operation
- §15-229. Display of Banners
- §15-230. Escort or Pilot Vehicles
- §15-231. Permit for Road Not Permission to Exceed Posted Bridge Weight Limit
- §15-232. Penalties

Part 1**Speed Limits****§15-101. Speed Limit.**

A uniform speed limit of 30 mph, unless otherwise posted, is fixed as a maximum speed for travel by all vehicles over Township roads §3610(a)(10) of the Vehicle Code, Pa.C.S.A. §3610(a)(10), unless otherwise posted.

(Ord. 1-02, 9/9/2002, §1)

§15-102. Posting Signs.

In accordance with the provisions of §3360 of the Vehicle Code, 75 Pa.C.S.A. §3360, signs setting speed limits shall be erected along each Township road covered by this Part.

(Ord. 1-02, 9/9/2002, §2)

§15-103. Penalties.

Penalties for violation of the speed adopted by this Part shall be those fixed by the Motor Vehicle Code; and penalties for a violation of any Section of this Part shall be a fine of not more than \$300 for each separate offense and violation.

(Ord. 1-02, 9/9/2002, §3)

Part 2**Weight Limits****A. Motor Vehicle Weight and Size Limitation and Bonding****§15-201. Short Title.**

This Part 1A shall be known as the “Motor Vehicle Weight and Size Limitation and Bonding Ordinance of Covington Township.”

(Ord. 1-2009, 1/5/2009, §1)

§15-202. Enactment.

This Part 1A is enacted pursuant to the authority conferred by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, including the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, Act of June 17, 1976, No. 81, §1 *et seq.*, as amended and supplemented, 75 Pa.C.S.A. §101 *et seq.* This Part 1A is intended to include and be subject to all provisions of §4902 of the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, including by way of illustration and not limitation, §4902(a) and (b) and §6103, and all Pennsylvania Department of Transportation regulations promulgated thereunder.

(Ord. 1-2009, 1/5/2009, §2)

§15-203. Definitions.

The following words when used in this Part 1A shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

Emergency vehicle—a fire department vehicle; police vehicle; ambulance; blood delivery vehicle; Armed Forces emergency vehicle; one private vehicle of a fire or police chief or assistant chief, or ambulance corps commander or assistant commander, or of a river rescue commander used for answering emergency calls; or other vehicle designated by the Pennsylvania State Police under §6101 of the Vehicle Code (relating to designation of emergency vehicles by Pennsylvania State Police).

Local traffic—emergency vehicles and school buses as defined hereinafter, vehicles and combinations or governmental entities and utilities where their contractors are engaged in construction or maintenance on a posted highway or in a location which can be reached only via a posted highway, and vehicles and combinations going to or from a residence or farm located on a posted highway or which can be reached only via a posted highway.

Motor vehicle—any vehicle or combination as defined and/or governed by the Vehicle Code, 75 Pa.C.S.A. §102, as amended.

Posted bridge—any Township bridge posted with a weight or size limitation or restriction imposed under the authority of this Part 1A.

Posted road—any Township road posted with a weight or size limitation or restriction imposed under the authority of this Part 1A.

School bus—a motor vehicle designated for carrying more than 10 passengers,

exclusive of the driver, and used for the transportation of school children.

Vehicle Code—the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, Act of June 17, 1976, No. 81, §1 *et seq.*, as amended and supplemented, 75 Pa.C.S.A. §101 *et seq.*

(Ord. 1-2009, 1/5/2009, §3)

§15-204. Section 4902(a) Findings of the Board of Supervisors of Covington Township.

Pursuant to the provisions of §4902(a) of the Vehicle Code, the Board of Supervisors has determined, and hereby determines, based upon engineering and traffic studies, that the following roads and bridges will be damaged or destroyed unless the permissible size or weight, or both, of motor vehicles is restricted to the size and weight limits listed. A complete list of the roads and bridges, identified by their route number, road or bridge name, part of the road restricted and size and weight limit, is attached hereto as Exhibit 15-2A-A and is made a part hereof. This list may be modified, amended or enlarged from time to time by the Board of Supervisors by duly adopted resolution.

(Ord. 1-2009, 1/5/2009, §4)

§15-205. Vehicle Weight and Size Limits Established.

Pursuant to the findings made under §15-204 hereof, and by the authority of §4902(a) of the Vehicle Code and regulations promulgated thereunder, no motor vehicle or combination shall be operated upon any posted road or posted bridge with a gross weight of a size in excess of the weight and size limits listed for said road or bridge in §15-204 hereof.

(Ord. 1-2009, 1/5/2009, §5)

§15-206. Section 4902(b) Findings of the Board of Supervisors of Covington Township.

Pursuant to the provisions of §4902(b) of the Vehicle Code, the Board of Supervisors has determined, and hereby determines, based upon hazardous traffic conditions or other safety factors, that the use of the following roads and bridges by vehicles exceeding a certain weight or size, or both, will endanger the public or users of said roads and bridges unless the permissible weight or size, or both, of motor vehicles is restricted to the size and weight limits listed. A complete list of the roads and bridges, identified by their route number, road or bridge name, part of the road restricted and size limit and weight limit, is attached hereto as Exhibit 15-2A-A and is made a part hereof. This list may be modified, amended or enlarged from time to time by the Board of Supervisors by duly adopted resolution.

(Ord. 1-2009, 1/5/2009, §6)

§15-207. Section 4902(b) Vehicle Weight and Size Limits Established.

Pursuant to the findings made under §15-206 hereof, and by the authority of §4902(b) of the Vehicle Code and regulations promulgated thereunder, no motor vehicle or combination shall be operated upon any posted road or posted bridge with a gross weight or of a size in excess in excess of the size and weight limits listed for said road

or bridge in §15-206 hereof.

(Ord. 1-2009, 1/5/2009, §7)

§15-208. Exemptions.

Local traffic, as defined herein, shall be exempted from the restrictions imposed under §§15-205 and 15-207 hereof. However, if the Board of Supervisors determines that any local traffic is likely to damage a posted road or bridge, the Board of Supervisors will so notify the registrants of the motor vehicle or combination and will also notify the Pennsylvania State Police. After 2 business days following delivery of the notice, or after 5 days following mailing of the notice, such local traffic vehicles shall not exceed the posted weight and size limits except in accordance with §15-209 hereof.

(Ord. 1-2009, 1/5/2009, §8)

§15-209. Permits and Security.

1. Individuals or entities wishing to operate vehicles in excess of established weight and size limits on a posted road or bridge must apply for a permit to do so on a form provided by the Township. Fees shall be set by resolution. Upon payment of an administrative fee, the application will be referred to the Township Roadmaster who shall:

A. Place the issue on the agenda for the next regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

B. Consult with the third party consultant as necessary to determine the amount and type of security or bond to be posted by the applicant. The amount of security or bond shall be calculated in accordance with Title 67, Chapter 189 of the Pennsylvania Code or its equivalent.

C. Present a recommendation to the Supervisors to include the amount of security or bond to be posted by the applicant if the permit is approved.

2. No permit will be issued until and unless the application is approved by the Board of Supervisors, the required security or bond has been posted with the Township Secretary, and all administrative, inspection and third party consultation fees have been paid in full. The Board of Supervisors shall, by resolution, set the amount of administrative, inspection and third party consultation fees, and may delegate the authority to approve permits and set security to the roadmaster or other official of the Township.

3. All actions taken under the authority of this Section shall be taken in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Transportation, as found in Title 67 of the Pennsylvania Code.

(Ord. 1-2009, 1/5/2009, §9)

§15-210. Erection of Signs.

The Township shall erect or cause to be erected and maintained restriction signs designating the weight and size restrictions at each end of the portion of road restricted, or the road providing access to the restricted bridge, as provided in this Part 1A. In the case of a restriction on a road which has not begun or ended at an intersection with an unrestricted highway, or a restriction on a bridge accessed by such a road, the Township

shall also place an advance informational sign at the intersection nearest each end of the restricted portion of the road which would allow drivers to avoid the restricted portion of road or the restricted bridge.

(*Ord. 1-2009, 1/5/2009, §10*)

§15-211. Penalties.

1. Any person operating a motor vehicle or combination upon a road or bridge in violation of a prohibition or restriction imposed under §15-204 hereof shall, upon conviction, pay a fine in the maximum amount allowed by §4902(g)(1) of the Vehicle Code, as amended and supplemented, or by any equivalent section of the Vehicle Code, or the maximum amount allowed by law, plus court costs, legal fees and other expenses incurred by the Township in enforcing this Part 1A.

2. Any person operating a motor vehicle or combination upon a road or bridge in violation of a prohibition or restriction imposed under §15-206 hereof shall, upon conviction, pay a fine in the maximum amount allowed by §4902(g)(2) of the Vehicle Code, as amended and supplemented, or by any equivalent section of the Vehicle Code, or the maximum allowed by law, plus court costs, legal fees and other expenses incurred by the Township in enforcing this Part 1A.

(*Ord. 1-2009, 1/5/2009, §11*)

Exhibit 15-2A-A

Route Number	Road Name	Between	Weight Limit
T419	East Creek Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T421	Walker Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T423	Hickory Ridge Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T437	Cushion Rd	Entire Road	No Weight Limit
T443	Barber Rd	Entire Road	20 Tons
T465	Johnson Hill Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T467	Hilfiger Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T472	Erway Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T473	Starks Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T474	Sawmill Rd	Entire Road	No Weight Limit
T475	Lieby Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T476	Talley Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T670	Haverly Hill Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T672	Tokarz Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T674	Fishers Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T704	Hutchison Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T706	Palmer Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T708	Birdland Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T748	Wilson Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T750	Kendrick Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T752	Cowan Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T782	Blake Rd	Entire Road	15 Tons
T784	Walls Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T785	Barber Road Ext	Entire Road	10 Tons
T786	East Barber Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons
T787	Frost Rd	Entire Road	10 Tons

B. Oversize and/or Overweight Vehicles on Township Owned Roads**§15-221. Short Title.**

This Part 1B shall be known as the “Covington Township Oversize/Overweight Vehicle Ordinance.”

(Ord. 8/9/2010, §1)

§15-222. Hauling Permit.

On or after August 31, 2010, any person or carrier desiring to operate a vehicle which is oversize or overweight, as defined by law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and in §15-223 of this Part 1B, on the roads owned by Covington Township, shall file with the Township for a hauling permit and shall pay the required fee for permit by this Section at least 24 hours in advance of such intended hauling. This Part 1B does not apply to State-designated routes that lie within Covington Township. Movement of oversize/overweight vehicles on State routes within Covington Township shall be regulated by a permit issued by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

(Ord. 8/9/2010, §2)

§15-223. Definition.

The definition of an oversize/overweight vehicle, for the purpose of this Part 1B, is as follows:

- A. Any vehicle/load in excess of 80,000 pounds gross weight (exception for fire apparatus or other recognized emergency equipment).
- B. Any vehicle/load in excess of 13 feet 6 inches in height (exception for fire apparatus and overhead light repair vehicles).
- C. Any vehicle/load in excess of 8 feet 6 inches in width (except those exempted in Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, §4921(B)).
- D. Any single vehicle in excess of 40 feet in length.
- E. Any combination/load that has a nondivisible load that exceeds 70 feet in length.

(Ord. 8/9/2010, §3)

§15-224. Permit Fees.

The permit fees for oversize/overweight vehicles on Township roads shall be as follows:

- A. Fifteen dollars general issuance fee for all oversize vehicles.
- B. One hundred twenty-five dollars blanket permit. Blanket permits are not valid for any overweight movement in excess of 80,000 pounds gross vehicle weight. Blanket permits are valid only for oversize vehicle loads and shall be good for the calendar year in which issued and will expire on December 31 of said year.
- C. All future increases in said fees pertaining to this Part 1B shall be adopted by resolution.

(Ord. 8/9/2010, §4)

§15-225. Application for Moving Vehicle.

To move a vehicle whose dimensions exceed the set limitations in §15-223, an application must be made to Covington Township for an oversize/overweight vehicle.
(Ord. 8/9/2010, §5)

§15-226. Proof of Liability Insurance.

The applicants for an oversize/overweight vehicle shall provide to Covington Township proof of liability insurance with coverage limitation of not less than \$1 million. Upon receipt of the permit fee and proof of liability insurance, Covington Township shall provide the applicant with an oversize/overweight permit to operate in Covington Township. The permit will list the name of the applicant and identify truck and/or trailer information, overall dimensions of the load, weight of the vehicle, number of axles and axle distance. The permit shall also list the route, origin and destination. The permit shall denote if an escort or pilot vehicle is required for the move. The permit shall be valid for 7 calendar days after issuance. The Township may require, at its discretion, that a physical route survey be performed prior to issuance of permit to ensure that proposed routing can be negotiated safely.

(Ord. 8/9/2010, §6)

§15-227. Applicant Liability.

The applicant shall assume all liability for repairs and shall perform, or have performed, to the satisfaction of Covington Township repairs to roads or structures, which have been damaged in connection with operations under this permit. To ensure no indifferences of existing roadway conditions between the applicant and Township, the applicant shall have the right to videotape the travel route and provide the Township with a copy of said video.

(Ord. 8/9/2010, §7)

§15-228. Hours of Operation.

The hours of operation for oversize/overweight vehicles in the Township are as follows:

- A. Sunrise to sunset during weekdays as determined by the national weather forecast.
- B. Sunrise to 12 p.m. on Saturday.
- C. No movement on Sunday or on any official Federal, State or local holiday.

(Ord. 8/9/2010, §8)

§15-229. Display of Banners.

All oversize/overweight vehicles traveling on Township roads shall display “oversize load” banners on the front and rear of the vehicle. The banners shall be at least 7 feet wide by 18 inches high. The vehicle/load shall also display flags on projecting loads and must be at least 18 inches square. Oversize/overweight vehicles may not travel within 1,000 feet of another oversize load.

(Ord. 8/9/2010, §9)

§15-230. Escort or Pilot Vehicles.

1. An escort or pilot vehicle shall not exceed 10,000 pounds. The vehicle shall have a minimum of two flashing yellow lights and also display two “oversize load” banners on the front and rear of the vehicle. The signs shall be at least 5 feet wide and 1 foot high. The vehicle must have two-way communication with the oversize/overweight vehicle. Vehicle personnel shall have the authority to direct traffic and ensure that traffic disruption is minimal. Escort personnel shall wear an orange reflective vest when engaging in directing traffic. Escort vehicles are required to carry proof of liability, insurance with a minimal coverage limit of \$1 million, naming Covington Township as an additional insured, said proof of insurance is to be kept on file with Covington Township.

2. One escort vehicle is needed when load or vehicle is in excess of 13 feet or when the total length exceeds 90 feet. The escort vehicle shall lead the oversize/overweight vehicle to warn oncoming traffic.

(Ord. 8/9/2010, §10)

§15-231. Permit for Road Not Permission to Exceed Posted Bridge Weight Limit.

The oversize/overweight permit does not allow the vehicle or combination to exceed posted bridge limits. If a Covington Township road is to be used that has a bridge, burden of proof that the bridge can hold the overweight load must be proved by the applicant through a registered engineer study at the applicant’s expense. If a review is required by the Township’s Engineer, the cost for the review will be paid by the applicant.

(Ord. 8/9/2010, §11)

§15-232. Penalties.

Penalties for violations shall be as set forth in the Second Class Township Code which, at the present time, permits a criminal fine not to exceed \$1,000 per violation and imprisonment to the extent allowed by law for the punishment of summary offenses. In addition, violations are subject to the provisions of the Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Code, and all penalties permitted for oversize/overweight violations by the said Code are incorporated herein by reference and may be imposed for a violation of this Part 1B. Enforcement may also be by an action in equity pursuant to 53 P.S. §66601(c)(4).

(Ord. 8/9/2010, §12)

