



**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**



*William Cass, P.E.*  
*Commissioner*

*David Rodrigue, P.E.*  
*Assistant Commissioner*  
*Michelle Winters*  
*Deputy Commissioner*

February 23, 2026

Towns, Loggers, Vendors, etc.

**RE: 2026 Spring Thaw Seasonal Road Postings / Weight Restrictions  
NHDOT District One – Northern Region**

Dear Sir or Madam:

This notice is being sent to advise you that the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (DOT) Highway Maintenance District One will soon be initiating the seasonal load weight restrictions on sections of the State highway system as authorized under State law RSA 236:3.

The seasonal load limit postings are intended to protect the State's infrastructure in the spring when warmer weather thaws the frost under the roadway. This can weaken the road base materials and potentially result in significant damage to the pavement if driven over by heavy vehicles.

The DOT District Engineers are responsible for identifying, evaluating, and monitoring the road conditions to determine when roads should be posted and when it is safe for the postings to be removed. The load limit restrictions are removed when the DOT determines the highways can once again withstand heavy vehicle traffic.

While the restrictions are in place, the maximum allowable gross vehicle weight on posted sections of State highways is 30,000 pounds (15 tons), or, the sum of the width (in inches) of all tires contacting the road surface multiplied by 300, whichever is less.

Under current State law (RSA 236:3-a), heating fuel delivery vehicles, trucks delivering processed milk products, trucks carrying sap for maple syrup production, and septic pumper trucks are exempt from the seasonal postings with written approval of the District Engineers. Exempt vehicles should carry a copy of the exemption letter in the commercial vehicle while travelling on posted roads.

A list of District One roads with seasonal weight restrictions is attached. There are no changes from the 2025 list. An interactive statewide map showing the roads with active restrictions can be found online at [www.newengland511.org](http://www.newengland511.org). The map will be updated as load limit postings are added or removed.

Please call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Alan G. Hanscom, PE  
State Maintenance Engineer/ Interim District One Engineer  
NHDOT District One  
(603) 788-4641