

# Road Restrictions

## Overview

Each year during the spring thaw (typically early-March to mid-May), State, County and local highway authorities impose axle weight restrictions to protect their roadways.

The two primary causes for premature deterioration of asphalt streets are weather and traffic. As the frost is leaving the ground during the spring thaw, the gravel under the street has high moisture content, which affects the load carrying capacity of the asphalt pavement. Therefore, in order to prolong the service life of the streets and highways, axle weight restrictions are imposed during the spring thaw when streets are most susceptible to damage due to heavy loads.

The exact dates on which seasonal limits go into effect and are removed vary depending on annual temperature variations. Seasonal load limits in Lindstrom go into effect on the date determined by the [Minnesota Department of Transportation \(MnDOT\)](https://sll.dot.state.mn.us/research/seasonal_load_limits/).

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