

## **NOTICE OF PROPOSED GUIDANCE DOCUMENT**

Wisconsin Department of Transportation Implements of Husbandry with Tracks DTSD71

1. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. s. 227.112, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation is hereby seeking comment on the Implements of Husbandry with Tracks, s.347.45, s.347.02, s. 348.15, s. 348.01, s. 86.02 Wis. Stats, Trans 305.30, 305.02

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS AND DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION**

Comments may be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for 21 days by:

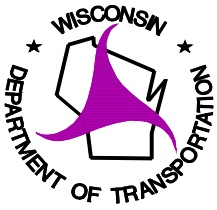
1. Department's website: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/dot/guidance-docs?guidDocId=DTSD71>
2. Mailing written comments to:  
Division of Transportation System Development  
Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
4822 Madison Yards Way  
PO Box 7965  
Madison, WI 53707-7965

### **WEBSITE LOCATION OF FINAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT**

The final version of this guidance document will be posted at [wisconsin.gov](http://wisconsin.gov) to allow for ongoing comment.

### **AGENCY CONTACT**

[dotdtsdguidancedocs@dot.wi.gov](mailto:dotdtsdguidancedocs@dot.wi.gov)



Bureau of Highway Maintenance
Oversize/Overweight Permits
4802 Sheboygan Avenue
P.O. Box 7980
Madison, WI 53707-7980
(608) 266-7320

IMPLEMENTS OF HUSBANDRY WITH TRACKS
INFORMATION SHEET

TIRES

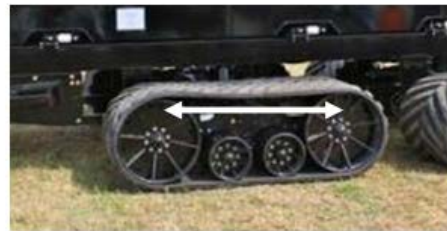
In general, Wisconsin's motor vehicle tire regulations, Wis. Stat. s. 347.45(1) and s. Trans 305.30, require motor vehicles operated on highways to be equipped with pneumatic tires. However, farm tractors, self-propelled farm implements, and implements of husbandry, are exempt from that general rule by Wis. Stat. s. 347.02(1)(a) and (b), and s. Trans 305.02(1)(a) and (b).

To protect roadway surfaces, Wis. Stat. s. 347.45(2) prohibits vehicles from being operated on roadways if any substance other than rubber protrudes from the tires' surface, such as studs, flanges, cleats or spikes. Similar to the exception from the pneumatic tire requirement, Wis. Stat. s. 347.45(2)(a) exempts farm tractors, self-propelled farm implements, implements of husbandry, animal-drawn vehicles and road machinery from the prohibition, provided that any protuberance does not damage the highway.

WEIGHT

The IoH/Ag CMV Weight Table established in Wis. Stat. s. 348.15(3)(g) applies to both tracked and rubber tired IoH power and towed units. The table is based on gross vehicle weights, equivalent axle number and spacing, and axle weights. The exterior most support wheels for each track unit (whether a single track or a pair working in tandem) will be considered as equivalent axles for applying the weight tables. However, exterior support wheels that are closer than 42 inches apart are considered one axle pursuant to Wis. Stat. s. 348.01(2)(c).

If tracks are located across from one another, i.e. on the left and right of the vehicle, the weights of the exterior support wheels will be combined to obtain the axle weight.



DISTANCE BETWEEN EXTERIOR SUPPORT WHEELS
Less than 42 inches = 1 axle
More than 42 inches = 2 axles

HIGHWAY DAMAGE

Whether an agricultural vehicle has tires or tracks, a person who damages a highway by operation of farm equipment is liable for all costs of restoring the highway to its previous condition. Under Wis. Stat. s. 86.02, any person who injures a highway is liable to the maintaining authority for triple damages. The amount recovered is credited to the highway maintenance fund.

This liability is imposed regardless of whether the vehicle is operating at a legal weight, with legal equipment, and/or under a permit. It is the operator's responsibility to make sure that the operation of a vehicle does not damage a highway.