Load Posting
Interactive Map

HELP GUIDE

**For best user experience, Google Chrome browser is recommended to access the web map**

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**GENERAL NAVIGATION**

- **Map view**
- **Sign and silhouette descriptions**
- **Map help, contact info**
- **Filter map view**
- **Search for place**
- **Show legend**
- **Change basemap (map background)**
- **Turn layers on/off**

**Zoom in (+) or out (-)**

**Zoom to overall state view**

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**Bridge Load Posting**

Click on a bridge for more information. Load posted bridges will show the load posting in a small pop-up. For a close-up view, click on the photo (it will open in another window).
Click "Legend" icon to show symbols and their meaning.
Click "Basemap Gallery" icon to show alternate map backgrounds. Click on a basemap to apply it to the map.
**Filter**

Click "Filter" icon to show bridges that are posted, closed, or pending posting based on road name.

Under each category, choose the road name from the dropdown menu. If the road name is not there, there's likely no posting (or closure, or posting pending) along that route.**

**Caution** - One road may be known by multiple different names, and some roads may be called by the same name. It's always recommended to check the spatial location.

Example: View is filtered to find posted bridges (purple) on S 43.
Click "Layer List" icon to turn layers on or off.

There are three separate layers:
- Bridges that are posted, closed, or pending posting.

If the box is checked, the layer is **on** and that category of bridges **will show** on the map.

If the box is not checked, the layer is **off** and that category of bridges **will not show** on the map.
Understanding Weight Restrictions

Click tab on top for sign and silhouette descriptions
Select tab on the side for information on MDT’s Load Posting Program

Bridge Load Posting

Bridge Load Posting Program

Interpreting Vehicle Types and Load Posting Signs

Bridge load posting means restricting vehicle weight on Montana’s bridges
Bridge weight restrictions are required when the engineering analysis of a bridge, known as a load rating, indicates that the bridge cannot carry standard legal loads. Bridge load posting signs show the weight restrictions, indicating maximum weights for different vehicle types.

Weight restrictions are required and important for Montana’s bridges
Not all bridges were designed to carry today’s standard legal loads, and some bridges have deteriorated over time. Bridge weight restrictions are in place to protect the bridge and its users. They are also posted to prevent certain loads from exceeding and overloading the bridge, which could lead to either visible or hidden damage, and eventual closure or failure of the bridge. A posted bridge is safe to use but the weight of certain vehicles must be limited accordingly.

Evolution of the trucking industry means changes to weight restrictions
In the last decade, manufacturers have developed specialized hauling vehicles (SHVs) such as grapple trucks, which can transport large, single concentrated loads. These vehicles have been found to put a lot more stress on bridges than standard vehicle types of the past. To account for their increasing presence and increase safe operation, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) designated SHVs as standard legal loads that all States are required to use in bridge analysis and posting.

Specialized Hauling Vehicles (SHVs)
SHVs are single unit vehicles with multiple, highly concentrated loads. Types of SHVs include pipe rollers, dozers, middle, small, and other hauling trucks.

Load Posting Signs
Load posting, or “Weight Limit” signs indicate the maximum gross vehicle weight (GVW), excluding equipment or loads being hauled by the vehicle, that can safely cross the bridge. Weight limit signs cannot show every possible vehicle on the road, so these standard silhouettes are used to represent common-truck configurations. The number of axles shown on each silhouette is only an example and is not to be interpreted as the only possibility for that vehicle type. Actual configurations will vary. Descriptions are provided for the five vehicle types that are represented by each silhouette.

Single Limit Sign
The SHV for any vehicle (including carts, trucks, and agricultural vehicles) in limited.regards of its number of wheels or axle configuration. The gross weight of the vehicle, including its separate tractors, must be less than or equal to the limit on the sign.

Three Silhouette Sign
The weight that corresponds to each silhouette is the maximum GVW allowed to cross the bridge for each truck type. These signs apply to single-unit and combination vehicles, including tractors, moving trucks, dump and front-end trucks, buses, tractor-trailers, and flatbed trucks with trailers, etc.

Single Silhouette Sign
Montana’s SHV is based on the vehicle’s number of axles. Full numbers may be grouped differently than the bridge to bridge. These signs only apply to single-unit vehicles, such as box trucks, moving trucks, and front-end trucks, buses, etc.

Vehicle Types
Truck
The first silhouette represents a single-unit vehicle, which is any vehicle with a trailer permanently attached to the tractor, regardless of the number of axles, axles, or axle configuration.

Tractor + Trailer
The second silhouette represents a semi-trailer vehicle, which is any combination of tractor and trailer that can be easily separated. These vehicles are sometimes referred to as semi-trucks.

Truck + Trailer Combination
The last silhouette represents a semi or three-unit vehicle with two cargo areas. These may include tractor-trailer or truck-trailer combinations.

Bridge Load Posting Map
Understanding Weight Restrictions
Help/More Information
Map Help

Bridge Load Posting

Help Guide

Consult this PDF for help using the Bridge Load Posting web tool.

For more information, please visit the MDT Bridge Load Posting Program site.

For the best user experience when accessing the Bridge Load Posting tool, we recommend Google Chrome browser.

For questions or comments contact:

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