



Snow Removal Laws

November 2009

State	Law	Citations
Alabama	No specific laws.	Citations may be issued if snow or ice accumulation obscures vision.
Alaska	<p>Special regulations applies to all vehicles.: Public Safety Part 1 Division of Alaska State Troopers Chapter 04 Motor Vehicle and Driving Offenses: Vehicle Equipment and Inspection Article 4 Brakes and Other Equipment 13 AAC 04.225. Windshields and wipers</p> <p>(b) No person may drive a motor vehicle with a sign, poster or other nontransparent material on the front windshield or window of the vehicle which obstructs, obscures, or impairs the driver's view; nor may a person drive a motor vehicle when there is an accumulation of snow, ice or frost on the windshield or windows which obstructs, obscures or impairs the driver's view.</p> <p>(c) The windshield on a motor vehicle must be equipped with devices for cleaning rain, snow and other moisture from both sides of the windshield; the device must be constructed to be controlled or operated by the driver of the vehicle, and must be maintained in good working order.</p> <p>(d) A motor vehicle required to have a windshield, except vehicles which do not have enclosed passenger compartments, must be equipped with a defrosting device to remove snow, ice, frost, or internal moisture from the windshield; this defrosting device must be maintained in good working order.</p>	If cited \$50.00/0 Points
Arizona	None	None
Arkansas	No specific laws	No additional tolerance or allowance for snow/ice when weighing trucks.
California	None	None
Colorado	No specific laws. Excess snow may produce a high alert, which would preclude a truck entering Eisenhower Tunnel.	None reported.
Connecticut	None	None
Delaware	No Specific Laws	None
District of	Will stop tucks that have large amounts of snow/ice accumulation	No citations issued

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Columbia		
Georgia	No specific laws. However if the snow/ice accumulation on any vehicle presents a "danger" to other drivers, then the CVM driver could be cited under Georgia Code 40-8-7.	It is believed that 392.9 could be used to deal with loose or falling snow/ice. This could result in out-of-service. A traffic citation would be at the officer's discretion. If a vehicle has snow/ice acclamation that weight would be included, with the vehicle's owner potentially cited for overweight.
Hawaii	None	None
Idaho	None	None
Illinois	None	None
Indiana	No specific laws. Indiana Turnpike will deny use unless snow is removed.	None
Iowa	None	Snow that would put a vehicle over height generally would be overlooked. Ice coming off a roof could be cited by an officer's discretion and cited under a general regulation.
Kansas	No specific laws.	Kansas has a general tolerance allowance for 1,000 pounds for fixed facilities and 1,500 for mobile scale operations. This policy does allow for discretion of extenuating circumstances, which snow and ice would qualify.
Kentucky	No specific laws.	None
Louisiana	None	None
Maine	None	None
Maryland	None	No additional tolerance or allowance for snow/ice when weighing trucks.
Massachusetts	Pending state legislation.	Trucks have been stopped for snow and ice fall off causing property damage to another vehicle, but stop is for tort hazard.
Michigan	Michigan has no law that addresses snow/ice in particular. It falls under the general operations requirement.	Snow/ice accumulation could result in an overweight situation if near limits. There could be a citation if excessive amounts of falling snow/ice interfered with traffic, which would be applicable to all motor vehicles.
Minnesota	None	None

State	Law	Citations
Mississippi	None	None. Leniency is given in the events of overweights due to ice and snow.
Missouri	None	None
Montana	None	None
Nebraska	None	Warning ticket is issued for a truck that is 5% or less over gross weight. Minimum ticket is \$25 plus court costs of \$45. In active storm, enforcement officers will allow driver to clear snow/ice buildup prior to reweighing.
Nevada	None	None
New Hampshire	New Hampshire does have a law (negligence) which incorporates snow/ice falling from a vehicle.	None
New Jersey	<p>New Jersey has the following law that applies to all motor vehicles: Title 39:4-77.1 states that when snow or ice is dislodged from a moving vehicle and strikes another vehicle or pedestrian causing injury or property damage.</p> <p>On October 19, 2010, any vehicle with a “dangerous accumulation” of snow will have to be removed.</p>	<p>The operator of a non-commercial motor vehicle shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$200 or more than \$1,000 for each offense.</p> <p>The operator, owner, lessee, bailee or any one of the aforesaid of a commercial motor vehicle shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$500 or more than \$1,500 for each offense.</p> <p>No motor vehicle points or automobile insurance eligibility points shall be assessed for this offense, however, any violation of this law requires an appearance in Court.</p> <p>Fines for not removing “dangerous accumulations” of snow will be from \$25 to \$75.</p>
New Mexico	None	None
New York	State legislation pending	None
North Carolina	No specific law	Snow/ice falling would be accident if there is property damage.
North Dakota	No specific laws.	There is requirement that snow/ice accumulation that causes the vehicle to be overweight must be removed immediately.

State	Law	Citations
Ohio	No specific laws. Law enforcement would use state laws applicable to all motor vehicles. Ohio Turnpike will deny use until snow is removed.	No additional tolerance or allowance for snow/ice when weighing trucks. Ice falling producing an accident would be charged as insecure load.
Oklahoma	None	None
Oregon	No specific laws, "Rules of the Road" would apply if there is an accident.	Driver given an opportunity to remove snow/ice accumulation if overweight.
Pennsylvania	3720 (motor vehicle code Title 75): When snow or ice is dislodged or falls from a moving vehicle and strikes another vehicle or pedestrian causing death or serious bodily injury as defined in section 3742 (relating to accidents involving death or serious bodily injury), the operator of the vehicle from which the snow or ice is dislodged or falls shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$ 200.00 and not more than \$1,000.00 for each offense.	Fines of \$200-\$1,000 per offense.
Rhode Island	None	None
South Carolina	None, however, if ice or snow falls off a driver's unit and cause damage to another vehicle then we could be sited for improper load securement.	Load securement possible.
South Dakota	None	None
Tennessee	None, however, leniency is given in the events of over weights due to ice and snow.	None
Texas	None	None
Utah	None	None
Virginia	None	None
Vermont	None	None
Washington	None	None
West Virginia	W.VA. has no laws regarding the removal of accumulated snow on commercial vehicles or any other motor vehicle. A motorist striking another vehicle with falling snow/ice is considered a road hazard in 99% of cases. In the remaining 1% of cases that reach the court level, they have been ruled as unsecured equipment.	None
Wisconsin	No specific laws. However, if snow and/or ice were to fall from the vehicle and create a hazard, it could be cited under s. 348.10(2). More specifically, the statute reads: (2) No person shall operate a vehicle on a highway unless such vehicle is so constructed and loaded as to prevent its contents from dropping, sifting, leaking or otherwise escaping therefrom.	Citation for a violation of this nature is rare but, can be fined at \$181.
Wyoming	None	None

