

PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE

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“Frost Law” weight restrictions to go into effect Monday February 21, 2011

Flint, Michigan. ---

The Genesee County Road Commission announced today that Seasonal Weight Restrictions – so-called “Frost Laws” - will go into effect on Genesee County roads at 6:00 A.M. on Monday, February 21, 2011. (Weight restrictions go into effect on MDOT’s state trunkline roads in southern Michigan on February 18, 2011.)

This means that, with few exceptions, while these restrictions are in place, the maximum axle load allowable on concrete pavements or pavements with a concrete base are reduced by 25% from the normal maximum axle load, and the maximum axle loads allowable on all other types of roads during these months shall be reduced by 35% from the maximum axle loads as specified.

At this time of year, nightly freeze/thaw cycles and the effects of frost migration causes the ground beneath roads to become “honeycombed” and fragile, so that potholes can bloom overnight on heavily travelled paved roads and gravel roads can turn to mush.

To help minimize damage to roads during this vulnerable period, weight restrictions are imposed each spring by road commissions across the state.

A wealth of information about these “Frost Law” weight restrictions is available at our website (www.gcrc.org) and from the County Road Association of Michigan at www.micountyroads.org.

While GCRC monitors its roads closely, it welcomes calls from the public regarding severe gravel road problems or dangerous conditions such as large potholes. Motorists can report road issues to GCRC by calling (810) 767-4920, sending an email to rslattery@gcrc.org or clicking on the “Report a Pothole” icon on its website, www.gcrc.org.

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