TRANSPORTATION PERMITS

There are legal limits on the size and weight of loads which can be transported over County roads. Transportation permits are issued by the Public Works Agency to enable large and/or heavy loads, which exceed legal limits, to be moved over certain County roads on a “case by case” basis. A “blanket” permit may be issued for local business concerns that move similar loads over the same road on a repeated schedule. These are issued for terms of up to one year and are referred to as “Annual Permits”.

Permit applications are available from the Amador County Public Works Agency or online. Instructions for completing the application form follow:

1. Enter name and address of transporter (not customers name), the company hauling the load.
2. Enter description of item or goods being transported. Be accurate so as to enable load to be identified by appearance.
3. Enter information regarding height, width, length, axle spacing etc. in the spaces so labeled on the form.
4. Enter the total vehicle gross weight in the appropriate space.
5. Enter origin and destination. Street addresses will suffice. If the load originates outside of Amador County, state road name for point at which you intend to enter the County. Public Works will determine the most suitable route within the County based on size and weight of the load. Some routes requested will not be allowed.

The Public Works Agency will, upon receipt of the completed form and appropriate fees, process the permit and respond to the mover as quickly as possible. It should be noted that some requests could take up to 24 hours to review and issue. It should also be noted that the County is under no obligation to allow the movement of extra legal loads on any County Road. Your submittal may be faxed or hand delivered but the permit will not be issued until fees are paid.

Most frequently asked questions:

- Why are transportation permits necessary? The permits with their limits are placed to safeguard and preserve the integrity of the road surface and to protect the safety of the motoring public.

- Why is it desirable to spread the weight of extremely heavy loads with additional axles? Among our primary concerns is the protection of the road surface. One axle loaded at 46,000 lbs. does as much damage as 1000 cars.
• What is the purpose of pilot cars? *Pilot cars are necessary as a form of warning, on our narrow and winding roads, that a large load is coming. Pilot cars are also valuable to communicate hazards or obstacles to the driver of the loaded truck.*

• Who enforces permit regulations? *Regulations regarding transportation permits are enforceable by local law enforcement and the California Highway Patrol. Transportation of loads without a permit will subject you to fines and penalties.*