

CHAPTER FIVE - Vehicular Operation

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ARTICLE 331 Accidents

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CROSS REFERENCES

- See sectional histories for similar State law
- Authority to require local accident report - see
W. Va. Code 17C-4-15
- Impounding wrecked vehicles - see TRAF. 303.07
- Removal of glass, etc. from highway - see TRAF. 311.01

331.01 ACCIDENTS INVOLVING DEATH OR PERSONAL INJURIES.

The driver of any vehicle involved in an accident resulting in injury to or death of any person shall immediately stop the vehicle at the scene of the accident or as close thereto as possible but shall then forthwith return to and shall remain at the scene of the accident until he or she has complied with the requirements of Section 331.03; provided, that the driver may leave the scene of the accident as may reasonably be necessary for the purpose of rendering assistance to an injured person as required by Section 331.03. Every such stop shall be made without obstructing traffic more than is necessary. (WVaC 17C-4-2)

331.02 ACCIDENTS INVOLVING DAMAGE TO VEHICLE.

The driver of any vehicle involved in an accident resulting only in damage to a vehicle which is driven or attended by any person shall immediately stop such vehicle at the scene of such accident or as close thereto as possible but shall forthwith return to and in every event shall remain at the scene of such accident until he has fulfilled the requirements of Section 331.03. Every such stop shall be made without obstructing traffic more than is necessary. Any person failing to stop or comply with such requirements under such circumstances shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. (WVaC 17C-4-2)

331.03 DUTY TO GIVE INFORMATION AND RENDER AID.

The driver of any vehicle involved in an accident resulting in injury to or death of any person or damage to any vehicle which is driven or attended by any person shall give his or her name, address and the registration number of the vehicle he or she is driving and shall upon request and if available exhibit his or her driver's license to the person struck or the driver or occupant of or person attending any vehicle collided with and shall render to any person injured in such accident reasonable assistance, including the carrying, or the making arrangements for the carrying of such person to a physician, surgeon or hospital for medical or surgical treatment if it is apparent that such treatment is necessary or if such carrying is requested by the injured person. (WVaC 17C-4-3)

331.04 COLLISION WITH UNATTENDED VEHICLE.

The driver of any vehicle which collides with any vehicle which is unattended shall immediately stop and shall then and there either locate and notify the operator or owner of such vehicle of the name and address of the driver and owner of the vehicle striking the unattended vehicle or shall leave in a conspicuous place in the vehicle struck a written notice giving the name and address of the driver and of the owner of the vehicle doing the striking and a statement of the circumstances thereof. (WVaC 17C-4-4)

331.05 COLLISION WITH FIXTURES UPON A STREET OR HIGHWAY.

The driver of any vehicle involved in an accident resulting only in damage to fixtures or other property legally upon or adjacent to a highway shall take reasonable steps to locate and notify the owner or person in charge of such property of such fact and of his or her name and address and of the registration number of the vehicle he or she is driving and shall upon request and if available exhibit his or her driver's license and shall make report of such accident when and as required. (WVaC 17C-4-5)

331.06 IMMEDIATE REPORTS OF ACCIDENTS.

The driver of a vehicle involved in an accident resulting in injury to or death of any person or total property damage to an apparent extent of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or more shall immediately by the quickest means of communication, whether oral or written, give notice of such accident to the Police Department.

(WVaC 17C-4-6)

331.07 WHEN DRIVER UNABLE TO REPORT.

Whenever the driver of a vehicle is physically incapable of making an immediate report of an accident as required in Section 331.06 and there was another occupant in the vehicle at the time of the accident capable of making a report, such occupant shall make or cause to be made such report not made by the driver.

(WVaC 17C-4-8)

331.08 GARAGES TO REPORT BULLET DAMAGE.

The person in charge of any garage or repair shop to which is brought any motor vehicle which shows evidence of having been struck by any bullet, shall report to the Police Department within twenty-four hours after such motor vehicle is received, giving the engine number, registration number, and the name and address of the owner or operator of such vehicle.

(WVaC 17C-4-12)

331.99 PENALTY.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See Section 303.99 for general Traffic Code penalty.)

Any person violating the provisions of Section 331.01 after being involved in an accident resulting in physical injury but not death to any person shall be imprisoned for not more than thirty days, or fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or both.

(WVaC 17C-4-1)

ARTICLE 333
Driving Under the Influence; Reckless Driving

333.01 Driving under the influence.
333.02 Reckless driving.

333.03 Hazardous driving.
333.99 Penalty.

CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law
 Authority to prohibit driving under the influence -
 see W. Va. Code 8-12-5(21)
 Compliance with State law - see W. Va. Code 17C-5-11a
 Implied consent - see W. Va. Code 17C-5A

333.01 DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE.

- (a) Any person who:
- (1) Drives a vehicle in this Municipality while:
 - A. He is under the influence of alcohol, or
 - B. He is under the influence of any controlled substance, or
 - C. He is under the influence of any other drug, or
 - D. He is under the combined influence of alcohol and any controlled substance or any other drug, or
 - E. He has an alcohol concentration in his or her blood of ten hundredths of one percent (0.10%) or more, by weight; and
 - (2) When so driving does any act forbidden by law or fails to perform any duty imposed by law in the driving of such vehicle, which act or failure proximately causes the death of any person within one year next following such act or failure, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be confined in jail for not less than ninety days nor more than one year and shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000).
- (b) Any person who:
- (1) Drives a vehicle in this Municipality while:
 - A. He is under the influence of alcohol, or
 - B. He is under the influence of any controlled substance, or
 - C. He is under the influence of any other drug, or
 - D. He is under the combined influence of alcohol and any controlled substance or any other drug, or
 - E. He has an alcohol concentration in his or her blood of ten hundredths of one percent (0.10%) or more, by weight; and

- (2) When so driving does any act forbidden by law or fails to perform any duty imposed by law in the driving of such vehicle, which act or failure proximately causes bodily injury to any person other than himself, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be confined in jail for not less than one day nor more than one year, which jail term shall include actual confinement of not less than twenty-four hours and shall be fined not less than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000).
- (c) Any person who:
- (1) Drives a vehicle in this Municipality while:
 - A. He is under the influence of alcohol, or
 - B. He is under the influence of any controlled substance, or
 - C. He is under the influence of any other drug, or
 - D. He is under the combined influence of alcohol and any controlled substance or any other drug, or
 - E. He has an alcohol concentration in his or her blood of ten hundredths of one percent (0.10%) or more, by weight;
 - (2) Is guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be confined in jail for not less than one day nor more than six months, which jail term shall include actual confinement of not less than twenty-four hours, and shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).
- (d) Any person who, being an habitual user of narcotic drugs or amphetamine or any derivative thereof, drives a vehicle in this Municipality, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be confined in jail for not less than one day nor more than six months, which jail term shall include actual confinement of not less than twenty-four hours, and shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).
- (e) Any person who:
- (1) Knowingly permits his or her vehicle to be driven in this Municipality by any other person who is:
 - A. Under the influence of alcohol, or
 - B. Under the influence of any controlled substance, or
 - C. Under the influence of any other drug, or
 - D. Under the combined influence of alcohol and any controlled substance or any other drug, or
 - E. Has an alcohol concentration in his or her blood of ten hundredths of one percent (0.10%) or more, by weight;
 - (2) Is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be confined in jail for not more than six months and shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).
- (f) Any person who knowingly permits his or her vehicle to be driven in this Municipality by any other person who is an habitual user of narcotic drugs or amphetamine or any derivative thereof, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be confined in jail for not more than six months and shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

(g) Any person under the age of twenty-one years who drives a vehicle in this Municipality while he or she has an alcohol concentration in his or her blood of two hundredths of one percent (0.02%) or more, by weight, but less than ten hundredths of one percent (0.10%), by weight, shall, for a first offense under this subsection, be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00). For a second or subsequent offense under this subsection, such person is guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be confined in jail for twenty-four hours, and shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00). A person who is charged with a first offense under the provisions of this subsection may move for a continuance of the proceedings from time to time to allow the person to participate in the vehicle alcohol test and lock program as provided for in West Virginia Code 17C-5A-3a. Upon successful completion of the program, the court shall dismiss the charge against the person and expunge the person's record as it relates to the alleged offense. In the event the person fails to successfully complete the program, the court shall proceed to an adjudication of the alleged offense. A motion for a continuance under this subsection shall not be construed as an admission or be used as evidence.

A person arrested and charged with an offense under the provisions of subsection (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) or (f) of this section may not also be charged with an offense under this subsection arising out of the same transaction or occurrence.

(h) Any person who:

- (1) Drives a vehicle in this Municipality while:
 - A. He is under the influence of alcohol; or
 - B. He is under the influence of any controlled substance; or
 - C. He is under the influence of any other drug; or
 - D. He is under the combined influence of alcohol and any controlled substance or any other drug; or
 - E. He has an alcohol concentration in his or her blood of ten hundredths of one percent (0.10%) or more, by weight; and
- (2) The person when so driving has on or within the motor vehicle one or more other persons who are unemancipated minors who have not reached their sixteenth birthday, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, shall be confined in jail for not less than two days nor more than twelve months, which jail term shall include actual confinement of not less than forty-eight hours, and shall be fined not less than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

(i) A person violating any provision of subsection (a), (b), (c), (d) (e), (f) or (h) hereof shall, for the second offense under this section, be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be confined in jail for a period of not less than six months nor more than one year, and the court may, in its discretion, impose a fine of not less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) nor more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000).

(j) A person violating any provision of subsection (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) or (h) hereof shall, for the third or any subsequent offense under this section, be guilty of a felony and charged under West Virginia Code 17C-5-2.

(k) For purposes of subsections (i) and (j) hereof relating to second, third and subsequent offenses, the following types of convictions shall be regarded as convictions under this section:

- (1) Any conviction under the provisions of subsection (a), (b), (c), (d) or (e) of the prior enactment of this section for an offense which occurred on or after September 1, 1981, and prior to the effective date of this section;
- (2) Any conviction under the provisions of subsection (a) of the prior enactment of this section for an offense which occurred within a period of five years immediately preceding September 1, 1981;
- (3) Any conviction under a municipal ordinance of this State or any other state or a statute of the United States or of any other state of an offense which has the same elements as an offense described in subsection (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) or (f) of this section, which offense occurred after June 10, 1983; and

(l) A person may be charged in a warrant or indictment or information for a second or subsequent offense under this section, if the person has been previously arrested for or charged with a violation of this section which is alleged to have occurred within the applicable time periods for prior offenses, notwithstanding the fact that there has not been a final adjudication of the charges for the alleged previous offense. In such case, the warrant or indictment or information must set forth the date, location and particulars of the previous offense or offenses. No person may be convicted of a second or subsequent offense under this section unless the conviction for the previous offense has become final.

(m) The fact that any person charged with a violation of subsection (a), (b), (c) or (d) hereof, or any person permitted to drive as described under subsection (e) or (f) hereof, is or has been legally entitled to use alcohol, a controlled substance or a drug shall not constitute a defense against any charge of violating subsection (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) or (f) hereof.

(n) For purposes of this section, the term "controlled substance" has the meaning ascribed to it in West Virginia Code Chapter 60A.

(o) The sentences provided herein upon conviction for a violation of this section are mandatory and shall not be subject to suspension or probation; provided, that the court may apply the provisions of West Virginia Code 62-11A-1 et seq., to a person sentenced or committed to a term of one year or less. An order for home detention by the court pursuant to the provisions of West Virginia Code Article 62-11B may be used as an alternative sentence to any period of incarceration required by this section.

(WVaC 17C-5-2)

(p) For purposes of this section, the phrase "in this Municipality" means anywhere within the physical boundaries of this Municipality, including, but not limited to, publicly maintained streets and highways, and subdivision streets or other areas not publicly maintained but nonetheless open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel.

(q) When used in this section, the terms or phrases "driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor," "driving or operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated," "for any person who is under the influence of intoxicating liquor to drive any vehicle," or any similar term or phrase shall be construed to mean and be synonymous with the term or phrase "while under the influence of alcohol...drives a vehicle" as the latter term or phrase is used in this section.

(r) A warrant or indictment which charges or alleges an offense, prohibited by the provisions of this section, and which warrant or indictment uses any of the terms or phrases set forth in subsection (q) hereof, shall not thereby be fatally defective if such warrant or indictment otherwise informs the person so accused of the charges against him.

(WVaC 17C-5-2a)

333.02 RECKLESS DRIVING.

(a) No person shall drive any vehicle upon any street or highway, or upon any residential street, or in any parking area, or upon the ways of any institution of higher education, whether public or private or upon the property of the Board of Education, or upon any property within the Municipal park and public recreation system, in willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property.

(b) The provisions of subsection (a) hereof shall not apply to those areas which have been temporarily closed for racing sport events or which may be set aside by the Municipality within the park and recreation system for exclusive use by motorcycles or other recreational vehicles. (WVaC 17C-5-3)

333.03 HAZARDOUS DRIVING.

(a) No person shall operate a motor vehicle or motorcycle without exercising reasonable and ordinary control over such vehicle.

(b) No person shall operate a motor vehicle or motorcycle in a weaving or zigzag course unless such irregular course is necessary for safe operation or in compliance with law.

(c) No person shall operate a motor vehicle or motorcycle without giving his full time and attention to the operation of such vehicle.

333.99 PENALTY.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See Section 303.99 for general Traffic Code penalty.)

Whoever violates Section 333.02 shall for a first offense be fined not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00); for a second or subsequent offense shall be fined not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) or more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

**ARTICLE 335
Speed Restrictions**

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| <p>335.01 Maximum speed limits.</p> <p>335.02 Slow speed.</p> <p>335.03 Special speed limitations.</p> | <p>335.04 Racing on streets and highways prohibited.</p> <p>335.05 Prima facie evidence of speed by radar.</p> <p>335.99 Penalty.</p> |
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CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law
 Authority to regulate speed - see W. Va. Code 17C-2-8,
 17C-6-3
 Minimum speed regulations - see W. Va. Code 17C-6-3(a)
 Special speed limitations - see W. Va. Code 17C-6-4
 et seq.
 Use of radar - see W. Va. Code 17C-6-7

335.01 MAXIMUM SPEED LIMITS.

(a) No person may drive a vehicle on a street or highway at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the existing conditions and the actual and potential hazards. In every event speed shall be so controlled as may be necessary to avoid colliding with any person, vehicle or other conveyance on or entering the streets and highways in compliance with legal requirements and the duty of all persons to use due care.

(b) Where no special hazard exists that requires lower speed for compliance with subsection (a) of this section the speed of any vehicle not in excess of the limits specified in this section or established as hereinafter authorized is lawful, but any speed in excess of the limits specified below in this subsection or established as hereinafter authorized is unlawful.

- (1) Fifteen miles per hour in a school zone during school recess or while children are going to or leaving school during opening or closing hours. A school zone is all school property including school grounds and any street or highway abutting such school grounds and extending one hundred twenty-five feet along such street or highway from the school grounds. Such speed restriction does not apply to vehicles traveling on a controlled-access highway which is separated from the school or school grounds by a fence or barrier approved by the Division of Highways;

- (2) Twenty-five miles per hour in any business or residence district or other area of the Municipality.

The speeds set forth in this section may be altered as authorized in West Virginia Code Article 17C-6.

(c) The driver of every vehicle shall, consistent with the requirements of subsection (a) of this section, drive at an appropriate reduced speed when approaching and crossing an intersection or railway grade crossing, when approaching and going around a curve, when approaching a hill crest, when traveling upon any narrow or winding roadway and when special hazard exists with respect to pedestrians or other traffic or by reason of weather or highway conditions.

(Ord. 12-4-90.)

335.02 SLOW SPEED.

No person shall drive a motor vehicle at such a slow speed as to impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic except when reduced speed is necessary for safe operation or in compliance with law.

(WVaC 17C-6-3a(a))

335.03 SPECIAL SPEED LIMITATIONS.

(a) Subject to all other speed restrictions of this Traffic Code no person shall drive a vehicle not designed for carrying passengers and equipped with pneumatic tires at a speed in excess of:

- (1) Twenty miles per hour in any business district;
- (2) Twenty-five miles per hour in any residence district;
- (3) Forty miles per hour on open country highway;
- (4) Trucks licensed at 8,000 pounds gross vehicle weight or less shall be permitted the same speed as passenger cars.

(WVaC 17C-6-4)

(b) No person shall drive any vehicle equipped with other than pneumatic tires at a speed greater than a maximum of ten miles per hour.

No person shall drive a vehicle over any bridge or other elevated structure constituting a part of a street or highway at a speed which is greater than the maximum speed which can be maintained with safety to such bridge or structure, when such structure is so signposted.

(WVaC 17C-6-5)

335.04 RACING ON STREETS AND HIGHWAYS PROHIBITED.

No person shall engage in, or aid or abet by serving as lookout or timer or in any other capacity whatever, any speed race, as defined herein, on any public street or highway in this Municipality. For the purposes of this section, "speed race" means:

- (a) The operation of a motor vehicle in speed acceleration competition with another motor vehicle or motor vehicles; or
 - (b) The operation of a motor vehicle in speed acceleration competition against time; or
 - (c) The operation of a motor vehicle in speed competition with another motor vehicle or motor vehicles where the speed exceeds the lawful speed limit.
- (WVaC 17C-6-8(a))

335.05 PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE OF SPEED BY RADAR.

The speed of a motor vehicle may be proved by evidence obtained by use of any device designed to measure and indicate or record the speed of a moving object by means of microwaves, when such evidence is obtained by members of the Police Department. The evidence so obtained shall be accepted as prima facie evidence of the speed of such vehicle.

(WVaC 17C-6-7)

335.99 PENALTY.

(a) General Article Penalty. Whoever violates any provision of this article for which no other penalty is provided shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00); upon a second conviction within one year thereafter shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00); and upon a third or subsequent conviction, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

(b) Speeding.

- (1) Unless otherwise provided in this subsection (b) hereof, any person who violates the provisions of Section 335.01 shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00); upon a second conviction within one year thereafter, shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00); and, upon a third or subsequent conviction within two years thereafter, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).
- (2) Any person who violates the provisions of Section 335.01(b)(1) shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

(c) Street Racing. Whoever violates Section 335.04 shall be fined not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00); for a second offense fined not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00); and for a third and each subsequent offense fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000). For the purposes of this section, a forfeiture of bail or collateral deposited to secure such person's appearance in court, which forfeiture has not been vacated, shall be equivalent to a final conviction. If at the time of any violation of the provisions of Section 335.04 by any person as an operator of a motor vehicle, such person was not entitled to operate a motor vehicle in this State because his operator's or chauffeur's license, or privilege to drive in this State if such person be a nonresident, had earlier been suspended or removed, then in addition to the penalties provided for in this section, the provisions of Section 351.10 shall be applicable.
(WVaC 17C-6-8)

ARTICLE 337
Driving on Right; Passing

<p>337.01 Driving upon right side of roadway; exceptions.</p> <p>337.02 Passing to right when proceeding in opposite directions.</p> <p>337.03 Overtaking, passing to left; driver's duties.</p> <p>337.04 Overtaking and passing upon right.</p> <p>337.05 Overtaking, passing to left of center.</p> <p>337.06 Additional restrictions on driving upon left side of roadway.</p>	<p>337.07 Hazardous or no passing zones.</p> <p>337.08 One-way roadways and rotary traffic islands.</p> <p>337.09 Driving in marked lanes or continuous lines of traffic.</p> <p>337.10 Following too closely.</p> <p>337.11 Driving upon divided roadways.</p> <p>337.12 Entering and exiting controlled-access highway.</p> <p>337.99 Penalty.</p>
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CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law
Authority to establish one-way streets - see W. Va.
Code 17C-2-8(4)

337.01 DRIVING UPON RIGHT SIDE OF ROADWAY; EXCEPTIONS.

(a) Upon all roadways of sufficient width a vehicle shall be driven upon the right half of the roadway, except as follows:

- (1) When overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction under the rules governing such movement;
- (2) When the right half of a roadway is closed to traffic while under construction or repair;
- (3) Upon a roadway divided into three marked lanes for traffic under the rules applicable thereon; or
- (4) Upon a roadway designated and signposted for one-way traffic.

(b) Upon all roadways any vehicle proceeding at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing shall be driven in the right-hand lane then available for traffic, or as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway, except when overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction or when preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway.

(WVaC 17C-7-1)

337.02 PASSING TO RIGHT WHEN PROCEEDING IN OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS.

Drivers of vehicles proceeding in opposite directions shall pass each other to the right, and upon roadways having width for not more than one line of traffic in each direction each driver shall give to the other at least one-half of the main-traveled portion of the roadway as nearly as possible.

(WVaC 17C-7-2)

337.03 OVERTAKING, PASSING TO LEFT; DRIVER'S DUTIES.

The following rules shall govern the overtaking and passing of vehicles proceeding in the same direction, subject to these limitations, exceptions and special rules hereinafter stated.

- (a) The driver of a vehicle overtaking another vehicle proceeding in the same direction shall give an audible signal and pass to the left thereof at a safe distance and shall not again drive to the right side of the roadway until safely clear of the overtaken vehicle.
- (b) Except when overtaking and passing on the right is permitted, the driver of an overtaken vehicle shall give way to the right in favor of the overtaking vehicle on audible signal and shall not increase the speed of his or her vehicle until completely passed by the overtaking vehicle.

(WVaC 17C-7-3)

337.04 OVERTAKING AND PASSING UPON RIGHT.

(a) The driver of a vehicle may overtake and pass upon the right of another vehicle only under the following conditions:

- (1) When the vehicle overtaken is making or about to make a left turn;
- (2) Upon a street or highway with unobstructed pavement not occupied by parked vehicles of sufficient width for two or more lines of moving vehicles in each direction;
- (3) Upon a one-way street, or upon any roadway on which traffic is restricted to one direction of movement, where the roadway is free from obstructions and of sufficient width for two or more lines of moving vehicles.

(b) The driver of a vehicle may overtake and pass another vehicle upon the right only under conditions permitting such movement in safety. In no event shall such movement be made by driving off the pavement or main-traveled portion of the roadway.

(WVaC 17C-7-4)

337.05 OVERTAKING, PASSING TO LEFT OF CENTER.

No vehicle shall be driven to the left side of the center of the roadway in overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction unless such left side is clearly visible and is free of oncoming traffic for a sufficient distance ahead to permit such overtaking and passing to be completely made without interfering with the safe operation of any vehicle approaching from the opposite direction or any vehicle overtaken. In every event the overtaking vehicle must return to the right-hand side of the roadway before coming within 100 feet of any vehicle approaching from the opposite direction.

(WVaC 17C-7-5)

337.06 ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS ON DRIVING UPON LEFT SIDE OF ROADWAY.

(a) No vehicle shall at any time be driven to the left side of the roadway under the following conditions:

- (1) When approaching the crest of a grade or upon a curve in the street or highway where the driver's view is obstructed within such distance as to create a hazard in the event another vehicle might approach from the opposite direction;
- (2) When approaching within 100 feet of or traversing any intersection or railroad grade crossing;
- (3) When the view is obstructed upon approaching within 100 feet of any bridge, viaduct or tunnel.

(b) The foregoing limitations shall not apply upon a one-way roadway.
(WVaC 17C-7-6)

337.07 HAZARDOUS OR NO PASSING ZONES.

When signs or markings are in place and clearly visible to an ordinarily observant person indicating that overtaking and passing or driving to the left of the roadway would be especially hazardous, every driver of a vehicle shall obey the directions thereof.
(WVaC 17C-7-7)

337.08 ONE-WAY ROADWAYS AND ROTARY TRAFFIC ISLANDS.

(a) Upon a roadway designated and signposted for one-way traffic a vehicle shall be driven only in the direction designated.

(b) A vehicle passing around a rotary traffic island shall be driven only to the right of such island.
(WVaC 17C-7-8(b), (c))

337.09 DRIVING IN MARKED LANES OR CONTINUOUS LINES OF TRAFFIC.

Whenever any roadway has been divided into two or more clearly marked lanes for traffic the following rules in addition to all others consistent herewith shall apply:

- (a) A vehicle shall be driven as nearly as practicable entirely within a single lane and shall not be moved from such lane until the driver has first ascertained that such movement can be made with safety.
- (b) Upon a roadway which is divided into three lanes a vehicle shall not be driven in the center lane which is clearly marked as a left turn lane except in preparation for a left turn or where such center lane is at the time allocated exclusively to traffic moving in the direction the vehicle is proceeding and is signposted to give notice of such allocation.
- (c) Official signs may be erected directing slow-moving traffic to use a designated lane or designating those lanes to be used by traffic moving in a particular direction regardless of the center of the roadway and drivers of vehicles shall obey the directions of every such sign.

(WVaC 17C-7-9)

337.10 FOLLOWING TOO CLOSELY.

(a) The driver of a motor vehicle shall not follow another vehicle more closely than is reasonable and prudent having due regard for the speed of such vehicles and the traffic upon and the condition of the street or highway.

(b) No operator of any motor truck, registered for a gross weight of more than 8,000 pounds, bus, special mobile equipment or any motor vehicle drawing another vehicle operating upon any roadway outside of a business or residence district, shall follow within 200 feet of another motor truck, bus, special mobile equipment or any motor vehicle drawing another vehicle; provided that this provision shall not be construed to:

- (1) Prevent overtaking and passing;
- (2) Apply upon any lane specially designated for the use of motor trucks or combinations of vehicles, or within any section of a roadway posted or marked as a "no-passing zone";
- (3) Apply to any convoy of vehicles of the military service of the United States or of this State; and
- (4) Apply to funeral processions.

(c) Motor vehicles being driven upon any roadway outside of a business or residence district in a caravan or motorcade whether or not towing other vehicles shall be so operated as to allow sufficient space between each such vehicle or combination of vehicles so as to enable any other vehicle to enter and occupy such space without danger. This provision shall not apply to:

- (1) Funeral processions; or
- (2) Any convoy of vehicles of the military service of the United States or of this State.
(WVaC 17C-7-10)

337.11 DRIVING UPON DIVIDED ROADWAYS.

Whenever any street or highway has been divided into two roadways by leaving an intervening space or by a physical barrier or clearly indicated dividing section so constructed as to impede vehicular traffic, every vehicle shall be driven only upon the right-hand roadway and no vehicle shall be driven over, across or within any such dividing space, barrier or section, except through an opening in such physical barrier or dividing section or space or at a crossover or intersection established by public authority.

(WVaC 17C-7-11)

337.12 ENTERING AND EXITING CONTROLLED-ACCESS HIGHWAY.

No person shall drive a vehicle onto or from any controlled-access roadway except at such entrances and exits as are established by public authority.

(WVaC 17C-7-12)

337.99 PENALTY.

Whoever violates any provision of this article shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00); upon a second conviction within one year thereafter shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00); and upon a third or subsequent conviction, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

ARTICLE 339
Turning and Starting; Signals

<p>339.01 Conformity with provisions required.</p> <p>339.02 Right turns.</p> <p>339.03 Left turns on two-way roadways.</p> <p>339.04 Left turns on other than two-way roadways.</p> <p>339.05 Specified turns at intersections.</p> <p>339.06 "U" turns restricted.</p> <p>339.07 Starting vehicle.</p>	<p>339.08 Signals before changing course, turning or stopping.</p> <p>339.09 Signals to be given by hand and arm or signal device.</p> <p>339.10 Hand and arm signals.</p> <p>339.99 Penalty.</p>
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CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law
Authority to regulate the turning of vehicles - see
W. Va. Code 17C-2-8(a)(9)
Authority to specify different courses for turns -
see W. Va. Code 17C-8-5

339.01 CONFORMITY WITH PROVISIONS REQUIRED.

The driver of a vehicle intending to turn at an intersection shall do so as provided in this article.
(WVaC 17C-8-1)

339.02 RIGHT TURNS.

Both the approach for a right turn and a right turn shall be made as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway.
(WVaC 17C-8-2)

339.03 LEFT TURNS ON TWO-WAY ROADWAYS.

At any intersection where traffic is permitted to move in both directions on each roadway entering the intersection, an approach for a left turn shall be made in that portion of the right half of the roadway nearest the centerline thereof and by passing to the right of such centerline where it enters the intersection and after entering the intersection the left turn shall be made so as to leave the intersection to the right of the centerline of the roadway being entered. Whenever practicable the left turn shall be made in that portion of the intersection to the left of the center of the intersection.
(WVaC 17C-8-3)

339.04 LEFT TURNS ON OTHER THAN TWO-WAY ROADWAYS.

At any intersection where traffic is restricted to one direction on one or more of the roadways, the driver of a vehicle intending to turn left at any such intersection shall approach the intersection in the extreme left-hand lane lawfully available to traffic moving in the direction of travel of such vehicle and after entering the intersection the left turn shall be made so as to leave the intersection, as nearly as practicable, in the left-hand lane lawfully available to traffic moving in such direction upon the roadway being entered.

(WVaC 17C-8-4)

339.05 SPECIFIED TURNS AT INTERSECTIONS.

Council or other designated traffic authority may cause markers, buttons or signs to be placed within or adjacent to intersections and thereby require and direct that a different course from that specified in this article be traveled by vehicles turning at an intersection, and when markers, buttons or signs are so placed no driver of a vehicle shall turn a vehicle at an intersection other than as directed and required by such markers, buttons or signs. (WVaC 17C-8-5)

339.06 "U" TURNS RESTRICTED.

(a) No vehicle shall be turned so as to proceed in the opposite direction upon any curve, or upon the approach to, or near the crest of a grade, where such vehicle cannot be seen by the driver of any other vehicle approaching from either direction within 500 feet.

(WVaC 17C-8-6)

(b) No vehicle shall be turned so as to proceed in the opposite direction within an intersection, or upon any street in a business district, or upon a freeway, expressway or controlled-access highway, or where authorized signs are erected to prohibit such movement, or at any other location unless such movement can be made with reasonable safety to other users of the street and without interfering with the safe operation of any traffic that may be affected by such movement.

339.07 STARTING VEHICLE.

No person shall start a vehicle which is stopped, standing or parked unless and until such movement can be made with reasonable safety.

(WVaC 17C-8-7)

339.08 SIGNALS BEFORE CHANGING COURSE, TURNING OR STOPPING.

(a) No person shall turn a vehicle at an intersection unless the vehicle is in proper position upon the roadway as required in Sections 339.02 to 339.05, or turn a vehicle to enter a private road or driveway or otherwise turn a vehicle from a direct course or move right or left upon a roadway unless and until such movement can be made with reasonable safety. No person shall so turn any vehicle without giving an appropriate signal in the manner hereinafter provided in the event any other traffic may be affected by such movement.

(b) A signal of intention to turn right or left when required shall be given continuously during not less than the last 100 feet traveled by the vehicle before turning.

(c) No person shall stop or suddenly decrease the speed of a vehicle without first giving an appropriate signal in the manner provided herein to the driver of any vehicle immediately to the rear when there is opportunity to give such signal.
(WVaC 17C-8-8)

339.09 SIGNALS TO BE GIVEN BY HAND AND ARM OR SIGNAL DEVICE.

Any stop or turn signal when required herein shall be given either by means of the hand and arm or by a signal lamp or lamps or mechanical signal device, but when a vehicle is so constructed or loaded that hand-and-arm signal would not be visible both to the front and rear of such vehicle then such signals must be given by such a lamp or lamps or signal device.
(WVaC 17C-8-9)

339.10 HAND AND ARM SIGNALS.

All signals herein required given by hand and arm shall be given from the left side of the vehicle in the following manner and such signals shall indicate as follows:

- (a) Left Turn: Hand and arm extended horizontally.
- (b) Right Turn: Hand and arm extended upward.
- (c) Stop or Decrease Speed: Hand and arm extended downward.
(WVaC 17C-8-10)

339.99 PENALTY.

Whoever violates any provision of this article shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00); upon a second conviction within one year thereafter shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00); and upon a third or subsequent conviction, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

**ARTICLE 341
Right of Way**

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| <p>341.01 Right of way at intersections.</p> <p>341.02 Right of way when turning left.</p> <p>341.03 Right of way at through street or highway or stop intersections.</p> | <p>341.04 Driving onto roadway from private road or driveway; duty to yield.</p> <p>341.05 Right of way of emergency vehicle.</p> <p>341.06 Turning into private driveway, alley or building.</p> <p>341.99 Penalty.</p> |
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CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law
Authority to designate through streets and stop intersections - see W. Va. Code 17C-2-8(a)(6), 17C-12-5

341.01 RIGHT OF WAY AT INTERSECTIONS.

(a) The driver of a vehicle approaching an intersection shall yield the right of way to a vehicle which has entered the intersection from a different street or highway.

(b) When two vehicles enter an intersection from a different street or highway at approximately the same time the driver of the vehicle on the left shall yield the right of way to the vehicle on the right.

(c) The right-of-way rules declared in subsections (a) and (b) hereof are modified at through streets or highways and otherwise as hereinafter stated in this article.
(WVaC 17C-9-1)

341.02 RIGHT OF WAY WHEN TURNING LEFT.

The driver of a vehicle within an intersection intending to turn to the left shall yield the right of way to any vehicle approaching from the opposite direction which is within the intersection or so close thereto as to constitute an immediate hazard, but such driver, having so yielded and having given a signal when and as required by this Traffic Code may make such left turn and the drivers of all other vehicles approaching the intersection from the opposite direction shall yield the right of way to the vehicles making the left turn.
(WVaC 17C-9-2)

341.03 RIGHT OF WAY AT THROUGH STREET OR HIGHWAY OR STOP INTERSECTIONS.

(a) The driver of a vehicle shall stop as required by Section 343.05 at the entrance to a through street or highway and shall yield the right of way to other vehicles which have entered the intersection from such through streets or highways or which are approaching so closely on such through street or highway as to constitute an immediate hazard but the driver having so yielded may proceed.

(b) The driver of a vehicle shall likewise stop in obedience to a stop sign as required herein at an intersection where a stop sign is erected at one or more entrances thereto although not a part of a through street or highway and shall proceed cautiously, yielding to vehicles not so obliged to stop which are within the intersection or approaching so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard, but may then proceed.

(WVaC 17C-9-3)

341.04 DRIVING ONTO ROADWAY FROM PRIVATE ROAD OR DRIVEWAY; DUTY TO YIELD.

The driver of a vehicle about to enter or cross a street or highway from a private road or driveway shall yield the right of way to all vehicles approaching on the street or highway.

(WVaC 17C-9-4)

341.05 RIGHT OF WAY OF EMERGENCY VEHICLE.

(a) Upon the immediate approach of an authorized emergency vehicle equipped with at least one flashing lighted lamp of a color authorized by Section 345.18, which is visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of 500 feet to the front of such vehicle other than a police vehicle when operated as an authorized emergency vehicle, and when the driver is giving audible signal by siren, exhaust whistle or bell, the driver of every other vehicle shall yield the right of way and shall immediately drive to a position parallel to, and as close as possible to, the right-hand edge or curb of the roadway clear of any intersection and shall stop and remain in such position until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed, except when otherwise directed by a police officer.

(b) This section shall not operate to relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons using the street or highway.

(WVaC 17C-9-5)

341.06 TURNING INTO PRIVATE DRIVEWAY, ALLEY OR BUILDING.

The driver of a vehicle intending to turn into a private road or driveway, alley or building from a public street or highway shall be governed by the following rules:

(a) Approach for a right turn and a right turn shall be made as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway.

(b) Upon a roadway where traffic is proceeding in opposite directions, approach for a left turn and a left turn shall be made from that portion of the right half of the roadway nearest the center line thereof.

- (c) Upon a roadway where traffic is restricted to one direction, approach for a left turn and a left turn shall be made as close as practicable to the left-hand curb or edge of the roadway.

It shall be the duty of the driver of any vehicle entering a private road or driveway, alley or building to yield the right of way to pedestrians lawfully using the sidewalk or sidewalk area extending across any alleyway, private road, driveway or building.

341.99 PENALTY.

Whoever violates any provision of this article shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00); upon a second conviction within one year thereafter shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00); and upon a third or subsequent conviction, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

(WVaC 17C-9-6)

**ARTICLE 343
Special Stops Required**

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| 343.01 Driving across grade crossing. | 343.07 Stopping for school bus; signs and warning lights; sale of school bus. |
| 343.02 Stops at dangerous grade crossings. | 343.08 Stopping for passenger van; signs and warning lights. |
| 343.03 Stopping at grade crossing. | 343.09 Obstructing intersection or crosswalk. |
| 343.04 Moving heavy equipment across grade crossings. | 343.99 Penalty. |
| 343.05 Through streets and stop intersections. | |
| 343.06 Driving onto roadway from place other than roadway; stopping at sidewalk. | |

CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law
Authority to establish through streets and stop intersections - see W. Va. Code 17C-2-8(a)(6)

343.01 DRIVING ACROSS GRADE CROSSING.

(a) Whenever any person driving a vehicle approaches a railroad grade crossing under any of the circumstances stated in this section, the driver of such vehicle shall stop within fifty feet but not less than fifteen feet from the nearest rail of such railroad, and shall not proceed until he can do so safely. The foregoing requirements shall apply when:

- (1) A clearly visible electric or mechanical signal device gives warning of the immediate approach of a railroad train;
- (2) A crossing gate is lowered or when a human flagman gives or continues to give a signal of the approach or passage of a railroad train;
- (3) A railroad train approaching within approximately 1,500 feet of the street or highway crossing emits a signal audible from such distance and such railroad train, by reason of its speed or nearness to such crossing, is an immediate hazard;
- (4) Any approaching railroad train is plainly visible and is in hazardous proximity to such crossing.

(b) No person shall drive any vehicle through, around or under any crossing gate or barrier at a railroad crossing while such gate or barrier is closed or is being opened or closed.
(WVaC 17C-12-1)

343.02 STOPS AT DANGEROUS GRADE CROSSINGS.

Council or other designated traffic authority with the approval of the State Commissioner of Highways is hereby authorized to designate particularly dangerous highway grade crossings of railroads and to erect stop signs thereat. When such stop signs are erected the driver of any vehicle shall stop within fifty feet but not less than fifteen feet from the nearest rail of such railroad and shall proceed only upon exercising due care.
(WVaC 17C-12-2)

343.03 STOPPING AT GRADE CROSSING.

(a) The driver of any motor vehicle carrying passengers for hire, or of any bus, or of any vehicle required to be placarded under 49 CFR part 172 carrying explosive substances, flammable liquids or hazardous materials as a cargo or part of a cargo, or of any vehicle owned by an employer which, in carrying on such employer's business or in carrying employees to and from work, is carrying more than six employees of such employer, before crossing at grade any track or tracks of a railroad, shall stop such vehicle within fifty feet but not less than fifteen feet from the nearest rail of such railroad and while so stopped shall listen and look in both directions along such track for any approaching train, and for signals indicating the approach of a train, except as hereinafter provided, and shall not proceed until he can do so safely. After stopping as required herein and upon proceeding when it is safe to do so the driver of any such vehicle shall cross only in such gear of the vehicle that there will be no necessity for changing gears while traversing such crossing and the driver shall not shift gears while crossing the track or tracks.

(b) No stop need be made at any such crossing where a police officer or a traffic control signal directs traffic to proceed.
(WVaC 17C-12-3)

343.04 MOVING HEAVY EQUIPMENT ACROSS GRADE CROSSINGS.

(a) No person shall operate or move any crawler-type tractor, steam shovel, derrick, roller or any equipment or structure having a normal operating speed of ten or less miles per hour or a vertical body or load clearance of less than one-half inch per foot of the distance between any two adjacent axles or in any event, of less than nine inches, measured above the level surface of a roadway, upon or across any tracks at a railroad grade crossing without first complying with this section.

(b) Notice of any such intended crossing shall be given to a station agent of such railroad and a reasonable time be given to such railroad to provide proper protection at such crossing.

(c) Before making any such crossing the person operating or moving any such vehicle or equipment shall first stop the same not less than fifteen feet nor more than fifty feet from the nearest rail of such railroad and while so stopped shall listen and look in both directions along such track for any approaching train, and for signals indicating the approach of a train, and shall not proceed until the crossing can be made safely.

(d) No such crossing shall be made when warning is given by automatic signal or crossing gates or a flagman or otherwise of the immediate approach of a railroad train or car. If a flagman is provided by the railroad, movement over the crossing shall be under his direction. (WVaC 17C-12-4)

343.05 THROUGH STREETS AND STOP INTERSECTIONS.

(a) Council or other designated traffic authority may designate through streets or highways and erect stop signs at specified entrances thereto or may designate any intersection as a stop intersection and erect like signs at one or more entrances to such intersection.

(b) Every such sign shall bear the word "Stop" in letters not less than six inches in height and such sign shall at nighttime be rendered luminous by steady or flashing internal illumination, or by a fixed floodlight projected on the face of the sign, or by efficient reflecting elements on the face of the sign.

(c) Every stop sign shall be erected as near as practicable to the nearest line of the crosswalk on the near side of the roadway.

(d) Every driver of a vehicle approaching a stop sign shall stop before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or in the event there is no crosswalk shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, then at the point nearest the intersecting street or highway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting street or highway before entering the intersection except when directed to proceed by a police officer or traffic control signal.

(WVaC 17C-12-5)

343.06 DRIVING ONTO ROADWAY FROM PLACE OTHER THAN ROADWAY; STOPPING AT SIDEWALK.

The driver of a vehicle within a business or residence district emerging from any alley, driveway or building shall stop such vehicle immediately prior to driving onto a sidewalk or onto the sidewalk area extending across any alleyway or private driveway, and shall yield the right of way to any pedestrian as may be necessary to avoid collision, and upon entering the roadway shall yield the right of way to all vehicles approaching on such roadway.

(WVaC 17C-12-6)

**343.07 STOPPING FOR SCHOOL BUS; SIGNS AND WARNING LIGHTS;
SALE OF SCHOOL BUS.**

(a) The driver of a vehicle upon meeting or overtaking from either direction any school bus which has stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging any school children shall stop the vehicle before reaching such school bus when there is in operation on such school bus flashing warning signal lights, as referred to in West Virginia Code 17C-12-8 and such driver shall not proceed until such school bus resumes motion, or is signaled by the school bus driver to proceed or the visual signals are no longer actuated. This section applies wherever the school bus is receiving or discharging children, including, but not limited to, any street, highway, parking lot, private road or driveway: provided, that the driver of a vehicle upon a controlled access highway need not stop upon meeting or passing a school bus which is on a different roadway or adjacent to such highway and where pedestrians are not permitted to cross the roadway. If the identity of the driver cannot be ascertained, then any such owner or lessee of the vehicle in violation of this subsection shall be subject to the penalty provided for a violation of this subsection provided, however, that such conviction shall not subject such owner or lessee to further administrative or other penalties for such offense, notwithstanding other provisions of the West Virginia Code or this Traffic Code to the contrary.

(b) Every bus used for the transportation of school children shall bear upon the front and rear thereof a plainly visible sign containing the words "school bus" in letters not less than eight inches in height. When a contract school bus is being operated upon a street or highway for purposes other than the actual transportation of children either to or from school, all markings thereon indicating "school bus" shall be covered or concealed. Any school bus sold or transferred to another owner by a county board of education, agency or individual, shall have all flashing warning lights disconnected and all lettering removed or permanently obscured, except when sold or transferred for the transportation of school children.

(WVaC 17C-12-7)

343.08 STOPPING FOR PASSENGER VAN; SIGNS AND WARNING LIGHTS.

(a) Every passenger van used for the transportation of children shall bear upon the front and rear thereof a plainly visible sign containing the warning "Caution: Loading and Unloading Passengers" in letters not less than six inches in height. Every such passenger van shall be equipped with either flashing warning signal lights as are contemplated and referred to in West Virginia Code 17C-12-8, or a red caution flag which the driver or some other adult must use by exiting the passenger van and displaying while assisting in the loading or unloading of passengers. Such vehicles may also be equipped with a white flashing strobotron warning light that meets the requirements set forth in West Virginia Code 17C-15-26(e).

(b) The driver of a vehicle upon meeting or overtaking from any direction any passenger van which has stopped for the purpose of loading or unloading passengers shall stop his or her vehicle before reaching the passenger van when there is in operation on the passenger van flashing warning signal lights or when an adult is outside the passenger van with a red caution flag and assisting with the loading or unloading of passengers. The driver of a vehicle may not proceed until he or she is signaled by the passenger van driver to proceed, the passenger van flashing signal lights are no longer actuated, or the passenger resumes motion. This section applies whenever the passenger van is loading or unloading children on any street, highway, parking lot, private road or driveway: provided, that the driver of a vehicle upon a controlled access highway need not stop upon meeting or passing a passenger van which is on a different roadway or adjacent to the highway and where pedestrians are not permitted to cross the roadway.

(WVaC 17C-12-17a)

343.09 OBSTRUCTING INTERSECTION OR CROSSWALK.

No driver shall enter an intersection or a marked crosswalk unless there is sufficient space on the other side of the intersection or crosswalk to accommodate the vehicle he is operating without obstructing the passage of other vehicles or pedestrians, notwithstanding any traffic control signal indication to proceed.

343.99 PENALTY.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See Section 303.99 for general Traffic Code penalty if no specific penalty is provided.)

- (a) Driving Onto Roadway From Place Other Than Roadway. Whoever violates Section 343.06 shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00); upon a second conviction within one year thereafter shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00); and upon a third or subsequent conviction, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).
- (b) Stopping For School Bus or Passenger Van. Any driver acting in violation of Section 343.07(a) or 343.08(b) shall be fined not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00). If the identity of the driver cannot be ascertained, then any such owner or lessee of the vehicle in violation of Section 343.07(a) or 343.08(b) shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00); provided, however, that such conviction shall not subject such owner or lessee to further administrative or other penalties for such offense, notwithstanding other provisions of this Traffic Code to the contrary.

ARTICLE 345
Safety and Equipment

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| 345.01 | Driving unsafe vehicles; application; farm and road equipment exceptions. | 345.18 | Special restrictions on lights. |
| 345.02 | When lighted lights required. | 345.19 | Motor vehicle or motor-cycle brakes. |
| 345.03 | Measurement of distances and heights. | 345.20 | Inspection of brakes on motorcycles, motor-driven cycles and mopeds. |
| 345.04 | Headlights on motor vehicles and motor-cycles. | 345.21 | Horn, siren and theft alarm signal. |
| 345.05 | Tail light; illumination of rear license plate. | 345.22 | Muffler; muffler cutout; excessive smoke, gas or noise. |
| 345.06 | Red light or red flag on extended loads. | 345.23 | Rear-view mirror. |
| 345.07 | Lights on parked or stopped vehicles. | 345.24 | Windshield to be unobstructed; windshield wiper. |
| 345.08 | Lights on slow-moving vehicles. | 345.25 | Tire equipment restrictions. |
| 345.09 | Spotlights and auxiliary lights. | 345.26 | Safety glass in motor vehicles. |
| 345.10 | Signal lamps and signal devices. | 345.27 | Vehicles transporting explosives. |
| 345.11 | Cowl, fender and back-up lights; flashing hazard lights. | 345.28 | Television receiver in driver's view prohibited. |
| 345.12 | Multiple-beam road-lighting equipment requirements. | 345.29 | Safety equipment for motorcyclists, motor-cycles, motor-driven cycles and mopeds. |
| 345.13 | Use of headlight beams. | 345.30 | Certification labels on mopeds. |
| 345.14 | Single-beam road-lighting equipment. | 345.31 | Child passenger safety device required. |
| 345.15 | Lights on motorcycles, motor-driven cycles and mopeds. | 345.32 | Certificate of inspection and approval. |
| 345.16 | Alternate road-lighting equipment. | 345.33 | Alteration of motor vehicles; bumper height limits. |
| 345.17 | Number of driving lights required or permitted. | 345.34 | Sun screening devices. |
| | | 345.35 | Operation of vehicles with safety belts. |
| | | 345.99 | Penalty. |

CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law
Obscured light on vehicles in combination - see
W. Va. Code 17C-15-13
Warning devices for commercial vehicles - see
W. Va. Code 17C-15-39
Bicycle equipment - see TRAF. Art. 373

345.01 DRIVING UNSAFE VEHICLES; APPLICATION; FARM AND ROAD EQUIPMENT EXCEPTIONS.

(a) No person shall drive or move and no owner shall cause or knowingly permit to be driven or moved on any street or highway any vehicle or combination of vehicles which is in such unsafe condition as to endanger any person, or which does not contain those parts or is not at all times equipped with such lamps and other equipment in proper condition and adjustment as required in this article, or which is equipped in any manner in violation of this article, or for any person to do any act forbidden or fail to perform any act required under this article.

(b) Nothing contained in this article shall be construed to prohibit the use of additional parts and accessories on any vehicle not inconsistent with the provisions of this article.

(c) The provisions of this article with respect to equipment on vehicles shall not apply to implements of husbandry, road machinery, road rollers or farm tractors except as herein made applicable. Every farm tractor equipped with an electric lighting system shall at all times mentioned in Section 345.02 display a red tail lamp and either multiple-beam or single-beam head lamps meeting the requirements of Section 345.02.
(WVaC 17C-15-1)

345.02 WHEN LIGHTED LIGHTS REQUIRED.

Every vehicle other than a school bus, motorcycle, motor-driven cycle or moped operated upon a street or highway within this Municipality at any time from sunset to sunrise or during fog, smoke, rain or other unfavorable atmospheric conditions, or at any other time when there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the street or highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead shall display lighted head lamps and illuminating devices as hereinafter respectively required for different classes of vehicles, subject to exceptions with respect to parked vehicles as provided for in Section 345.07(c). Every school bus, motorcycle, motor-driven cycle and moped shall display lighted head lamps at all times when upon the street or highway.
(WVaC 17C-15-2)

345.03 MEASUREMENT OF DISTANCES AND HEIGHTS.

(a) Whenever requirement is hereinafter declared as to the distance from which certain lamps and devices shall render objects visible or within which such lamps or devices shall be visible such provisions shall apply during the times stated in Section 345.02 in respect to a vehicle without load when upon a straight, level, unlighted street or highway under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

(b) Whenever requirement is hereinafter declared as to the mounted height of lamps or devices it shall mean from the center of such lamp or device to the level ground upon which the vehicle stands when such vehicle is without a load.
(WVaC 17C-15-3)

345.04 HEADLIGHTS ON MOTOR VEHICLES AND MOTORCYCLES.

(a) Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle, motor-driven cycle or moped shall be equipped with at least two head lamps with at least one on each side of the front of the motor vehicle, which head lamps shall comply with the requirements and limitations set forth in this article.

(b) Every motorcycle, motor-driven cycle and moped shall be equipped with at least one and not more than two head lamps which shall comply with the requirements and limitations of this article.

(c) Every head lamp upon every motor vehicle, including every motorcycle, motor-driven cycle and moped, shall be located at a height measured from the center of the head lamp of not more than fifty-four inches nor less than twenty-four inches to be measured as set forth in Section 345.03.
(WVaC 17C-15-4)

345.05 TAIL LIGHT; ILLUMINATION OF REAR LICENSE PLATE.

(a) Every motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer, and any other vehicle which is being drawn at the end of a train of vehicles, shall be equipped with at least one tail lamp mounted on the rear, which, when lighted as hereinbefore required, shall emit a red light plainly visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear, provided that in the case of a train of vehicles only the tail lamp on the rearmost vehicle need actually be seen from the distance specified.

(b) Every tail lamp upon every vehicle shall be located at a height of not more than sixty inches nor less than twenty inches to be measured as set forth in Section 345.03(b).

(c) Either a tail lamp or a separate lamp shall be so constructed and placed as to illuminate with a white light the rear registration plate and render it clearly legible from a distance of fifty feet to the rear. Any tail lamp or tail lamps, together with any separate lamp for illuminating the rear registration plate, shall be so wired as to be lighted whenever the head lamps or auxiliary driving lamps are lighted.
(WVaC 17C-15-5)

345.06 RED LIGHT OR RED FLAG ON EXTENDED LOADS.

Whenever the load upon any vehicle extends to the rear four feet or more beyond the bed or body of such vehicle there shall be displayed at the extreme rear end of the load, at the times specified in Section 345.02, a red light or lantern plainly visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the sides and rear. The red light or lantern required under this section shall be in addition to the red rear light required upon every vehicle. At any time there shall be displayed at the extreme rear end of such load a red flag or cloth not less than twelve inches square and so hung that the entire area is visible to the driver of a vehicle approaching from the rear.
(WVaC 17C-15-14)

345.07 LIGHTS ON PARKED OR STOPPED VEHICLES.

(a) Whenever a vehicle is lawfully parked upon a street or highway during the hours between sunset and sunrise and in the event there is sufficient light to reveal any person or object within a distance of 500 feet upon such street or highway no lights need be displayed upon such parked vehicle.

(b) Whenever a vehicle is parked or stopped upon a roadway or shoulder adjacent thereto, whether attended or unattended, during the hours between sunset and sunrise and there is not sufficient light to reveal any person or object within a distance of 500 feet upon such street or highway, such vehicle so parked or stopped shall be equipped with one or more lamps meeting the following requirements: At least one lamp shall display a white or amber light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front of the vehicle, and the same lamp or at least one other lamp shall display a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear of the vehicle, and the location of such lamp or lamps shall always be such that at least one lamp or combination of lamps meeting the requirements of this section is installed as near as practicable to the side of the vehicle which is closest to passing traffic. The foregoing provisions shall not apply to a motorcycle, motor-driven cycle or moped.

(c) Any lighted head lamps upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed.
(WVaC 17C-15-15)

345.08 LIGHTS ON SLOW-MOVING VEHICLES.

All vehicles including animal-drawn vehicles and including those referred to in Section 345.01(c) not hereinbefore specifically required to be equipped with lamps, shall at the times specified in Section 345.02 be equipped with at least one lighted lamp or lantern exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front of such vehicle and with a lamp or lantern exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear.
(WVaC 17C-15-16)

345.09 SPOTLIGHTS AND AUXILIARY LIGHTS.

(a) Spot Lamps. Any motor vehicle except a public utility company maintenance vehicle may be equipped with not to exceed one spot lamp and every lighted spot lamp shall be so aimed and used upon approaching another vehicle that no part of the high-intensity portion of the beam will be directed to the left of the prolongation of the extreme left side of the vehicle nor more than 100 feet ahead of the vehicle. A public utility company maintenance vehicle may be equipped with more than one spot lamp but all lighted spot lamps shall be aimed and used in conformity to the requirements of this subsection.

(b) Fog Lamps. Any motor vehicle may be equipped with not to exceed two fog lamps mounted on the front at a height not less than twelve inches nor more than thirty inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands and so aimed that when the vehicle is not loaded none of the high-intensity portion of the light to the left of the center of the vehicle shall at a distance of twenty-five feet ahead project higher than a level of four inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes.

(c) **Auxiliary Passing Lamp.** Any motor vehicle may be equipped with not to exceed one auxiliary passing lamp mounted on the front at a height not less than twenty-four inches nor more than forty-two inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands and every auxiliary passing lamp shall meet the requirements and limitations set forth in this article.

(d) **Auxiliary Driving Lamp.** Any motor vehicle may be equipped with not to exceed one auxiliary driving lamp mounted on the front at a height not less than sixteen inches nor more than forty-two inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands and every such auxiliary driving lamp shall meet the requirements and limitations set forth in this article.
(WVaC 17C-15-17)

345.10 SIGNAL LAMPS AND SIGNAL DEVICES.

(a) Any motor vehicle may be equipped and when required under this Traffic Code shall be equipped with the following signal lamps or devices:

- (1) A stop lamp on the rear which shall emit a red or yellow light and which shall be actuated upon application of the service (foot) brake and which may but need not be incorporated with a tail lamp.
- (2) A lamp or lamps or mechanical signal device capable of clearly indicating any intention to turn either to the right or to the left and which shall be visible both from the front and rear.

(b) A stop lamp shall be plainly visible and understandable from a distance of 100 feet to the rear both during normal sunlight and at nighttime and signal lamp or lamps indicating intention to turn shall be visible and understandable during daytime and nighttime from a distance of 100 feet both to the front and rear. When a vehicle is equipped with a stop lamp or other signal lamps, such lamp or lamps shall at all times be maintained in good working condition. No stop lamp or signal lamp shall project a glaring or dazzling light.

(c) All mechanical signal devices shall be self-illuminated when in use at the times mentioned in Section 345.02.
(WVaC 17C-15-18)

345.11 COWL, FENDER AND BACK-UP LIGHTS; FLASHING HAZARD LIGHTS.

(a) Any motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two side cowl or fender lamps which shall emit an amber or white light without glare.

(b) Any motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one running-board courtesy lamp on each side thereof which shall emit a white or amber light without glare.

(c) Except for school buses as provided in this subsection, any motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two back-up lamps either separately or in combination with other lamps, but any such back-up lamp shall not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward motion. School buses used for the transportation of school children in this Municipality, whether owned and operated by a county board of education or privately owned and operated under contract with a county board of education, shall be equipped with two back-up lamps, one on each side of the rear door, with white lens or reflectors, capable of lighting the roadway and objects to the rear of the bus for safe backing during darkness, and which, at the option of the county board of education, may each provide fifty candlepower in illumination intensity instead of thirty-two candlepower.

(d) Any vehicle may be equipped with lamps which may be used for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing, and when so equipped may display such warning in addition to any other warning signals required by this article. The lamps used to display such warning to the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable and shall display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. The lamps used to display such warning to the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights or any shade of color between amber and red.

(e) Vehicles used by "rural mail carriers" in carrying or delivering mail in rural areas may be equipped with amber flashing lights. Such lights shall be on the front and rear of the vehicle and may be activated when the vehicle is stopped or decreasing speed in order to stop in the course of carrying, delivering or picking up mail along the route.

(f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code to the contrary, any motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one electroluminescent solid state ceramic front identification plate without glare, mounted in conformance with the manufacturer's specifications.

(g) Vehicles used as the lead car in a funeral procession are hereby authorized to be equipped with, but are not required to use, purple lamps or purple flashing lights. Such lamps may be used for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing a funeral procession, and when so equipped may display such warning in addition to any other warning signals required by this article. The lamps or flashing lights used to display such warning to the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable and shall display simultaneously either illuminating or flashing purple lights. The lamps used to display such warning to the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing or illuminated purple lights. (WVaC 17C-15-19)

345.12 MULTIPLE-BEAM ROAD-LIGHTING EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS.

Except as hereinafter provided, the head lamps or the auxiliary driving lamp or the auxiliary passing lamp or combinations thereof on motor vehicles other than a motorcycle, motor-driven cycle or moped shall be so arranged that the driver may select at will between distributions of light projected to different elevations and such lamps may, in addition, be so arranged that such selection can be made automatically, subject to the following limitations:

- (a) There shall be an uppermost distribution of light, or composite beam, so aimed and of such intensity as to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 350 feet ahead for all conditions of loading.
- (b) There shall be a lowermost distribution of light, or composite beam, so aimed and of sufficient intensity to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead; and on a straight level road under any condition of loading none of the high-intensity portion of the beam shall be directed to strike the eyes of an approaching driver.

- (c) Every new motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, motor-driven cycle or moped, registered in the State after January 1, 1952, which has multiple-beam road-lighting equipment shall be equipped with a beam indicator, which shall be lighted whenever the uppermost distribution of light from the head lamps is in use, and shall not otherwise be lighted. Such indicator shall be so designed and located that when lighted it will be readily visible without glare to the driver of the vehicle so equipped. (WVaC 17C-15-20)

345.13 USE OF HEADLIGHT BEAMS.

Whenever a motor vehicle is being operated on a roadway or shoulder adjacent thereto during the times specified in Section 345.02, the driver shall use a distribution of light, or composite beam, directed high enough and of sufficient intensity to reveal persons and vehicles at a safe distance in advance of the vehicle, subject to the following requirements and limitations:

- (a) Whenever a driver of a vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle within 500 feet, such driver shall use a distribution of light, or composite beam, so aimed that the glaring rays are not projected into the eyes of the oncoming driver. The lowermost distribution of light, or composite beam specified in Section 345.12(b) shall be deemed to avoid glare at all times regardless of road contour and loading.
- (b) Whenever the driver of a vehicle follows another vehicle within 200 feet to the rear, except when engaged in the act of overtaking and passing, such driver shall use a distribution of light permissible under this Traffic Code other than the uppermost distribution of light specified in Section 345.12(a). (WVaC 17C-15-21)

345.14 SINGLE-BEAM ROAD-LIGHTING EQUIPMENT.

Head lamps arranged to provide a single distribution of light shall be permitted on motor vehicles manufactured and sold prior to July 1, 1952 in lieu of multiple-beam road-lighting equipment herein specified if the single distribution of light complies with the following requirements and limitations:

- (a) The head lamps shall be so aimed that when the vehicle is not loaded none of the high-intensity portion of the light shall at a distance of twenty-five feet ahead project higher than a level of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes, and in no case higher than forty-two inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of seventy-five feet ahead.
- (b) The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 200 feet. (WVaC 17C-15-22)

345.15 LIGHTS ON MOTORCYCLES, MOTOR-DRIVEN CYCLES AND MOPEDS.

The head lamp or head lamps upon every motorcycle, motor-driven cycle and moped may be of the single-beam or multiple-beam type but in either event shall comply with the requirements and limitations as follows:

- (a) Every such head lamp or head lamps shall be of sufficient intensity to reveal a person or a vehicle at a distance of not less than 100 feet when the motorcycle, motor-driven cycle or moped is operated at any speed less than twenty-five miles per hour and at a distance of not less than 200 feet when it is operated at a speed of twenty-five or more miles per hour.
- (b) In the event the motorcycle, motor-driven cycle or moped is equipped with a multiple-beam type head lamp or head lamps the upper beam shall meet the minimum requirements set forth above and shall not exceed the limitations set forth in Section 345.12(a) and the lowermost beam shall meet the requirements applicable to a lowermost distribution of light as set forth in Section 345.12(b).

- (c) In the event the motorcycle, motor-driven cycle or moped is equipped with a single-beam lamp or lamps such lamp or lamps shall be so aimed that when the vehicle is loaded none of the high-intensity portion of light, at a distance of twenty-five feet ahead, shall project higher than the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes. (WVaC 17C-15-23)

345.16 ALTERNATE ROAD-LIGHTING EQUIPMENT.

Any motor vehicle may be operated under the conditions specified in Section 345.02 when equipped with two lighted lamps upon the front thereof capable of revealing persons and objects seventy-five feet ahead in lieu of lamps required in Section 345.12, or Section 345.14, provided that at no time shall it be operated at a speed in excess of twenty miles per hour. (WVaC 17C-15-24)

345.17 NUMBER OF DRIVING LIGHTS REQUIRED OR PERMITTED.

(a) At all times specified in Section 345.02 at least two lighted lamps shall be displayed, one on each side at the front of every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle, motor-driven cycle or moped, except when such vehicle is parked subject to the regulations governing lights on parked vehicles.

(b) Whenever a motor vehicle equipped with head lamps as herein required is also equipped with any auxiliary lamps or a spot lamp or any other lamp on the front thereof projecting a beam of intensity greater than 300 candlepower, not more than a total of four of any such lamps on the front of a vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when upon a street or highway. (WVaC 17C-15-25)

345.18 SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS ON LIGHTS.

(a) Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle other than head lamps, spot lamps, auxiliary lamps or flashing front-direction signals which projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower shall be so directed that no part of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than seventy-five feet from the vehicle.

(b) No person shall drive or move any vehicle or equipment upon any street or highway with any lamp or device thereon displaying other than a white or amber light visible from directly in front of the center thereof except as authorized by subsection (d) hereof.

(c) Except as authorized in subsections (d) and (f) of this section and Section 345.11, flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles: Provided, that any vehicle as a means for indicating right or left turn, or any vehicle as a means of indicating the same is disabled or otherwise stopped for an emergency may have blinking or flashing lights.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Traffic Code, the following colors of flashing warning lights are restricted for the use of the type of vehicle designated:

- (1) Blue flashing warning lights are restricted to police vehicles. Authorization for police vehicles shall be designated by the chief administrative official of each police department.

- (2) Except for standard vehicle equipment authorized by Section 345.11, red flashing warning lights are restricted to ambulances; firefighting vehicles; hazardous material response vehicles; industrial fire brigade vehicles; school buses; Class A vehicles, as defined by West Virginia Code 17A-10-1, of those firefighters who are authorized by their fire chiefs to have such lights; Class A vehicles of members of ambulance services or duly chartered rescue squads who are authorized by their respective chiefs to have such lights; and Class A vehicles of out-of-state residents who are active members of West Virginia fire departments, ambulance services or duly chartered rescue squads who are authorized by their respective chiefs to have such lights. Red flashing warning lights attached to such Class A vehicles shall be operated only when responding to or engaged in handling an emergency requiring the attention of such firefighters, members of such ambulance services, or chartered rescue squads.
- (3) The use of red flashing warning lights shall be authorized as follows:
 - A. Authorization for all ambulances shall be designated by the Department of Health and Human Resources and the sheriff of the county of residence.
 - B. Authorization for all fire department vehicles shall be designated by the Fire Chief and the State Marshal's Office.
 - C. Authorization for all hazardous material response vehicles and industrial fire brigades shall be designated by the Chief of the Fire Department and the State Fire Marshal's Office.
 - D. Authorization for all rescue squad vehicles not operating out of a fire department shall be designated by the squad chief, the sheriff of the county of residence and the Department of Health and Human Resources.
 - E. Authorization for school buses shall be designated as set out in West Virginia Code 17C-14-12.
 - F. Authorization for firefighters to operate Class A vehicles shall be designated by their fire chiefs and the State Fire Marshal's Office.
 - G. Authorization for members of ambulance services or any other emergency medical service personnel to operate Class A vehicles shall be designated by their chief official, the Department of Health and Human Resources and the sheriff of the county of residence.
 - H. Authorization for members of duly chartered rescue squads not operating out of a fire department to operate Class A vehicles shall be designated by their squad chiefs, the sheriff of the county of residence and the Department of Health and Human Resources.
 - I. Authorization for out-of-state residents operating Class A vehicles who are active members of a West Virginia fire department, ambulance services or duly chartered rescue squads shall be designated by their respective chiefs.
- (4) Yellow flashing warning lights are restricted to the following:
 - A. All other emergency vehicles, including tow trucks and wreckers, authorized by the West Virginia Code Chapter 17C and 17C-15-27;
 - B. Postal service vehicles and rural mail carriers, as authorized in Section 345.11;
 - C. Rural newspaper delivery vehicles;

- D. Flag car services;
 - E. Vehicles providing road service to disabled vehicles;
 - F. Service vehicles of a public service corporation;
 - G. Snow removal equipment; and
 - H. School buses.
- (5) The use of yellow flashing warning lights shall be authorized as follows:
- A. Authorization for tow trucks, wreckers, rural newspaper delivery vehicles, flag car services, vehicles providing road service to disabled vehicles, service vehicles of a public service corporation and postal service vehicles shall be designated by the sheriff of the county of residence.
 - B. Authorization for snow removal equipment shall be designated by the Commissioner of the Division of Highways.
 - C. Authorization for school buses shall be designated as set out in West Virginia Code 17C-14-12.

(e) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this section, any vehicle belonging to a county board of education, an organization receiving funding from the state or federal transit administration for the purpose of providing general public transportation, or hauling solid waste may be equipped with a white flashing strobotron warning light. This strobe light may be installed on the roof of a school bus, a public transportation vehicle, or a vehicle hauling solid waste not to exceed one-third the body length forward from the rear of the roof edge. The light shall have a single clear lens emitting light three hundred sixty degrees around its vertical axis and may not extend above the roof more than six and one-half inches. A manual switch and a pilot light must be included to indicate the light is in operation.

(f) No person shall install or use flashing warning lights of an unauthorized color on a vehicle other than as specified in this section, except that a police vehicle may be equipped with either or both blue or red warning lights.
(WVaC 17C-15-26)

345.19 MOTOR VEHICLE OR MOTORCYCLE BRAKES.

(a) Brake Equipment Required.

- (1) Every motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, motor-driven cycle or moped, when operated upon a street or highway shall be equipped with brakes adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold such vehicle, including two separate means of applying the brakes, each of which means shall be effective to apply the brakes to at least two wheels. If these two separate means of applying the brakes are connected in any way, they shall be so constructed that failure of any one part of the operating mechanism shall not leave the motor vehicle without brakes on at least two wheels.
- (2) Every motorcycle, motor-driven cycle and moped, when operated upon a street or highway, shall be equipped with at least one brake which may be operated by hand or foot.

- (3) Every trailer or semitrailer of a gross weight of 3,000 pounds or more when operated upon a street or highway shall be equipped with brakes adequate to control the movement of and to stop and to hold such vehicle and so designed as to be applied by the driver of the towing motor vehicle from its cab, and such brakes shall be so designed and connected that in case of an accidental breakaway of the towed vehicle the brakes shall be automatically applied.
- (4) Every new motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer hereinafter sold in this State and operated upon the streets or highways shall be equipped with service brakes upon all wheels, with the following exceptions:
 - A. Trucks and truck-tractors having three or more axles need not have brakes on the front wheels, except when such vehicles are equipped with at least two steerable axles, the wheels of one such axle need not be equipped with brakes, and
 - B. Any motorcycle, motor-driven cycle or moped and any semitrailer of less than 1,500 pounds gross weight need not be equipped with brakes.
- (5) In any combination of motor-driven vehicles, means shall be provided for applying the rearmost trailer brakes, of any trailer equipped with brakes, in approximate synchronism with the brakes on the towing vehicle and developing the required braking effort on the rearmost wheels at the fastest rate; or means shall be provided for applying braking effort first on the rearmost trailer equipped with brakes; or both of the above means capable of being used alternatively may be employed.
- (6) Every such vehicle and combination of vehicles, except motorcycles, motor-driven cycles and mopeds, shall be equipped with parking brakes adequate to hold the vehicle on any grade on which it is operated, under all conditions of loading on a surface free from snow, ice or loose material. The parking brakes shall be capable of being applied in conformance with the foregoing requirements by the driver's muscular effort or by spring action or by equivalent means. Their operation may be assisted by the service brakes or other source of power provided that failure of the service brake actuation system or other power assisting mechanism will not prevent the parking brakes from being applied in conformance with the foregoing requirements. The parking brakes shall be so designed that when once applied they shall remain applied with the required effectiveness despite exhaustion of any source of energy or leakage of any kind. The same brake drums, brake shoes and lining assemblies, brake shoe anchors and mechanical brake shoe actuation mechanism normally associated with the wheel brake assemblies may be used for both the service brakes and the parking brakes. If the means of applying the parking brakes and the service brakes are connected in any way, they shall be so constructed that a failure of any one part shall not leave the vehicle without operative brakes.

- (7) The brake shoes operating within or upon the drums on the vehicle wheels of any motor vehicle may be used for both service and hand operation.

(b) Performance Ability of Brakes. Every motor vehicle or combination of motor-drawn vehicles shall be capable, at all times and under all conditions of loading, of being stopped on a dry, smooth, level road free from loose material, upon application of the service (foot) brake, within the distances specified below, or shall be capable of being decelerated at a sustained rate corresponding to these distances:

	<u>Feet to stop from 20 miles per hour</u>	<u>Deceleration in feet per second</u>
Vehicle or combinations of vehicles having brakes on all wheels	30	14
Vehicles or combinations of vehicles not having brakes on all wheels	40	10.7

(c) Maintenance of Brakes. All brakes shall be maintained in good working order and shall be so adjusted as to operate as equally as practicable with respect to the wheels on opposite sides of the vehicle.
(WVaC 17C-15-31)

345.20 INSPECTION OF BRAKES ON MOTORCYCLES, MOTOR-DRIVEN CYCLES AND MOPEDS.

No person shall operate on any street or highway any motorcycle, motor-driven cycle or moped in the event the Commissioner of Highways has disapproved the brake equipment upon such vehicle or type of vehicle.
(WVaC 17C-15-32)

345.21 HORN, SIREN AND THEFT ALARM SIGNAL.

(a) Every motor vehicle when operated upon a street or highway shall be equipped with a horn in good working order and capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of not less than 200 feet, but no horn or other warning device shall emit an unreasonably loud or harsh sound or a whistle. The driver of a motor vehicle shall when reasonably necessary to insure safe operation give audible warning with his horn but shall not otherwise use such horn when upon a street or highway.

(b) No vehicle shall be equipped with nor shall any person use upon a vehicle any siren, whistle or bell, except as otherwise permitted in this section.

(c) It is permissible but not required that any commercial vehicle be equipped with a theft alarm signal device which is so arranged that it cannot be used by the driver as an ordinary warning signal.

Any authorized emergency vehicle may be equipped with a siren, whistle or bell, capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of not less than 500 feet and of a type approved by the Department of Motor Vehicles, but such siren shall not be used except when such vehicle is operated in response to an emergency or in the immediate pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law, in which such latter events the driver of such vehicle shall sound such siren when reasonably necessary to warn pedestrians and other drivers of the approach thereof.

(WVaC 17C-15-33)

345.22 MUFFLER; MUFFLER CUTOUT; EXCESSIVE SMOKE, GAS OR NOISE.

(a) Every motor vehicle shall at all times be equipped with a muffler in good working order and in constant operation to prevent excessive or unusual noise. Such muffler shall be the muffler originally installed by the manufacturer of the vehicle or, if a replacement, the equivalent thereof. No person shall use a muffler cutout, bypass or similar device upon a motor vehicle on a street or highway.

(b) The engine and power mechanism of every motor vehicle shall be so equipped and adjusted as to prevent the escape of excessive fumes or smoke.

(WVaC 17C-15-34)

345.23 REAR-VIEW MIRROR.

Every motor vehicle which is so constructed or loaded as to obstruct the driver's view to the rear thereof from the driver's position shall be equipped with a mirror so located as to reflect to the driver a view of the street or highway for a distance of at least 200 feet to the rear of such vehicle.

(WVaC 17C-15-35)

345.24 WINDSHIELD TO BE UNOBSTRUCTED; WINDSHIELD WIPER.

(a) No person shall drive any motor vehicle with any sign, poster or other nontransparent material upon the front windshield, side wings or side or rear windows of such vehicle which obstructs the driver's clear view of the street or highway or any intersecting street or highway.

(b) The windshield on every motor vehicle shall be equipped with a device for cleaning rain, snow or other moisture from the windshield, which device shall be so constructed as to be controlled or operated by the driver of the vehicle.

(c) Every windshield wiper upon a motor vehicle shall be maintained in good working order.

(WVaC 17C-15-36)

345.25 TIRE EQUIPMENT RESTRICTIONS.

(a) Every solid rubber tire on a vehicle shall have rubber on its entire traction surface at least one inch thick above the edge of the flange of the entire periphery.

(b) No person shall operate or move on any highway any motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer having any metal tire in contact with the roadway.

(c) No tire on a vehicle moved on a highway shall have on its periphery any block, stud, flange, cleat or spike or any other protuberance of any material other than rubber which projects beyond the tread of the traction surface of the tire, except that:

- (1) It shall be permissible to use farm machinery with tires having protuberances which will not injure the street or highway;
- (2) It shall be permissible to use tire chains of reasonable proportions upon any vehicle when required for safety because of snow, ice or other conditions tending to cause a vehicle to skid; and
- (3) It shall be permissible to use studded tires during the period from November 1, of each year until April 15 of the following year. Provided that in the interest of highway maintenance, no vehicle moved on a street or highway, other than school buses, shall be equipped with studded tires which are operational with a recommended air pressure greater than forty pounds per square inch.

(d) No studded tires or chains shall be sold or used within the Municipality which do not meet the specifications established by the rules and regulations which the Commissioner of Highways shall promulgate.

(e) Council may in its discretion issue special permits authorizing the operation upon the street or highway of traction engines or tractors having movable tracks with transverse corrugations upon the periphery of such movable tracks or farm tractors or other farm machinery, the operation of which upon a highway would otherwise be prohibited under this Traffic Code. (WVaC 17C-15-37)

345.26 SAFETY GLASS IN MOTOR VEHICLES.

(a) On and after July 1, 1951, no person shall operate any motor vehicle as specified herein, nor shall any motor vehicle as specified herein be registered thereafter unless such vehicle is equipped with safety glass of a type approved by the Commissioner of Highways wherever glass is used in doors, windows and windshields. The foregoing provisions shall apply to all passenger-type motor vehicles, including passenger buses and school buses, but in respect to trucks, including truck tractors, the requirements as to safety glass shall apply to all glass used in doors, windows, and windshields in the drivers' compartments of such vehicles.

(b) The term "safety glass" shall mean any product composed of glass, so manufactured, fabricated or treated as substantially to prevent shattering and flying of the glass when struck or broken, or such other or similar product as may be approved by the Commissioner. (WVaC 17C-15-38)

345.27 VEHICLES TRANSPORTING EXPLOSIVES.

Any person operating any vehicle transporting any explosive as a cargo or part of a cargo upon a street or highway shall at all times comply with the provisions of this section.

- (a) Such vehicle shall be marked or placarded on each side and the rear with the word "Explosives" in letters not less than eight inches high, or there shall be displayed on the rear of such vehicle a red flag not less than twenty-four inches square marked with the word "Danger" in white letters six inches high.
- (b) Every such vehicle shall be equipped with not less than two fire extinguishers, filled and ready for immediate use and placed at a convenient point on the vehicle so used.
(WVaC 17C-15-41)

345.28 TELEVISION RECEIVER IN DRIVER'S VIEW PROHIBITED.

No motor vehicle shall be operated on any street or highway in this Municipality when equipped with a television receiver unless such receiver is so placed that the screen or picture tube of such receiver is visible only in the rear seat of such motor vehicle and not in view of the operator of such motor vehicle.

(WVaC 17C-15-42)

345.29 SAFETY EQUIPMENT FOR MOTORCYCLISTS, MOTORCYCLES, MOTOR-DRIVEN CYCLES AND MOPEDS.

(a) No person shall operate or be a passenger on any motorcycle or motor-driven cycle unless he is wearing securely fastened on his head by either a neck or chin strap a protective helmet designed to deflect blows, resist penetration and spread impact forces. Any helmet worn by an operator or passenger shall meet the current performance specifications established by the American National Standards Institute Standard, Z 90.1, the United States Department of Transportation Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 218 or Snell Safety Standards for Protective Headgear for Vehicle Users.

(b) No person shall operate or be a passenger on any motorcycle or motor-driven cycle unless he is wearing safety, shatter-resistant eyeglasses (excluding contact lenses), or eyegoggles or face shield that complies with the performance specifications established by the American National Standards Institute for Head, Eye and Respiratory Protection, Z 2.1. In addition, if any motorcycle, motor-driven cycle or moped is equipped with a windshield or windscreen, the windshield or windscreen shall be constructed of safety, shatter-resistant material that complies with the performance specifications established by Department of Transportation Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 205 and American National Standards Institute, Safety Glazing Materials for Glazing Motor Vehicles Operated on Land Highways, Standard Z 26.1.

(c) No person shall operate a motorcycle, motor-driven cycle or moped on which the handlebars or grips are more than fifteen inches higher than the uppermost part of the operator's seat when the seat is not depressed in any manner.

(d) A person operating a motorcycle, motor-driven cycle or moped shall ride in a seated position facing forward and only upon a permanent operator's seat attached to the vehicle. No operator shall carry any other person nor shall any other person ride on such a vehicle unless the vehicle is designed to carry more than one person, in which event a passenger may ride behind the operator upon the permanent operator's seat if it is designed for two persons, or upon another seat firmly attached to the vehicle to the rear of the operator's seat and equipped with footrests designed and located for use by the passenger or in a sidecar firmly attached to the vehicle. No person shall ride sidesaddle on a seat. An operator may carry as many passengers as there are seats and footrests to accommodate those passengers. Additional passengers may be carried in a factory produced side car provided that there is one passenger per seat. Passengers riding in a sidecar shall be restrained by safety belts.

(e) Every motorcycle, motor-driven cycle and moped shall be equipped with a rearview mirror affixed to the handlebars or fairings and adjusted so that the operator shall have a clear view of the road and condition of traffic behind him for a distance of at least 200 feet.

(WVaC 17C-15-44)

345.30 CERTIFICATION LABELS ON MOPEDS.

Every moped sold in this Municipality shall have permanently affixed to it a certification label which shall contain the following information:

- (1) Name of manufacturer;
- (2) Month and year of manufacture;
- (3) Gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR);
- (4) Gross axle weight rating for front and rear axles (GAWR);
- (5) Vehicle identification number;
- (6) Classification type; and
- (7) Statement of conformance to Federal standards as required by Federal law.

(WVaC 17C-15-45)

345.31 CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY DEVICE REQUIRED.

Every driver who transports a child under the age of nine years in a passenger automobile, van or pickup truck other than one operated for hire, shall, while such motor vehicle is in motion and operated on a street or highway of this Municipality, provide for the protection of such child by properly placing, maintaining and securing such child in a child passenger safety device system meeting applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards: provided, that if such child is between the age of three and eight, both inclusive, a vehicle seat belt shall be sufficient to meet the requirements of this section.

Whoever violates this section shall be fined not less than ten dollars (\$10.00) nor more than twenty dollars (\$20.00).

A violation of this section shall not be deemed by virtue of such violation to constitute evidence of negligence or contributory negligence or comparative negligence in any civil action or proceeding for damages.

If all seat belts in a vehicle are being used at the time of examination by a law officer and the vehicle contains more passengers than the total number of seat belts or other safety devices as installed in compliance with Federal motor vehicle safety standards, the driver shall not be considered as violating this section.

(WVaC 17C-15-46)

345.32 CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION AND APPROVAL.

No owner or operator of any vehicle required to be inspected under West Virginia Code Article 17C-16 shall operate or permit to be operated such vehicle without having displayed thereon a current and valid certificate of inspection and approval or fail to produce same upon demand of any authorized person as therein designated.

(WVaC 17C-16-9)

345.33 ALTERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES; BUMPER HEIGHT LIMITS.

(a) No person shall operate upon a public street or highway any motor vehicle registered or required to be registered in this State if it has been modified by alteration of its height from the ground to the extent that its bumpers, measured to any point on the lower edge of the main horizontal bumper bar, exclusive of any bumper guards, do not fall within the limits specified herein for its gross vehicle weight rating category. The front and rear bumper height of motor vehicles whose gross vehicle weight rating is 10,000 pounds or less shall be no less than six inches and no more than thirty-one inches. In the absence of bumpers, and in cases where bumper heights have been altered or modified, height measurements shall be made to the bottom of the frame rail. If a motor vehicle has a bumper, the bumper must be at least three inches in vertical width, centered on the center line of the motor vehicle and not less than the width of the wheel track distance. The provisions of this subsection do not apply to motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating in excess of 10,000 pounds. For the purpose of this subsection, the term "gross vehicle weight ratings" means the manufacturer's gross vehicle weight ratings established for that vehicle.

(b) The maximum distance between the vehicle body to the vehicle frame shall not exceed three inches. The distance from the vehicle body to the vehicle frame shall be measured from the vehicle body mount seat to the vehicle frame mount seat: provided, that the maximum distance limitation shall not prohibit a body lift kit up to three inches to be added to the manufacturer's original spacer between the body and the frame. No vehicle shall be modified to cause the vehicle body or chassis to come in contact with the ground, expose the fuel tank to damage from collision, or cause the wheels to come in contact with the body under normal operation. No part of the original suspension system may be disconnected to defeat the safe operation of the suspension system. Modification of the front end suspension by the use of lift blocks is expressly prohibited.

(c) Nothing contained in this section prevents the installation of heavy duty equipment, including shock absorbers and overload springs.

(d) Nothing contained in this section prohibits the operation on a public street or highway of a motor vehicle with normal wear to the suspension system if such normal wear does not adversely affect the control of the vehicle.

(e) This section does not apply to specially designed or modified motor vehicles when operated off the public streets and highways in races and similar events. Such motor vehicles may be lawfully towed on the streets and highways of this Municipality.

(f) Modifications to motor vehicles, not prohibited herein, shall be made subject to inspection as provided in subsection (h) hereof.

(g) Nothing contained in this section shall subject a vehicle modified solely by the installation of tires not larger than two sizes beyond the maximum specified by the manufacturer to inspection as provided in subsection (h) hereof.

(h) Any motor vehicle which has been altered from the manufacturer's specification with respect to bumper height for that vehicle make and model but within the allowable limits of subsection (a) hereof or any motor vehicle which has been altered from the manufacturer's specification for that vehicle make and model with respect to the distance from the vehicle body to vehicle frame but within the allowable limits of subsection (b) hereof may be operated upon a public street or highway in this Municipality, subject to inspection under West Virginia Code 17C-15-48: provided, that any motor vehicle which has been altered from the manufacturer's specification by lowering the bumper height for that vehicle make and model within the allowable limits of subsection (a) hereof shall be exempt from the inspection requirements hereunder and may be operated upon a public street or highway in this Municipality subject to provisions of West Virginia Code Chapter 17C-16. Each municipal law-enforcement agency must record on accident report forms whether a modified vehicle was involved in the accident.
(WVaC 17C-15-48)

345.34 SUN SCREENING DEVICES.

(a) No person may operate a motor vehicle that is registered or required to be registered in the State on any public highway, road or street that has a sun screening device on the windshield, the front side wings and side windows adjacent to the right and left of the driver and windows adjacent to the rear of the driver that do not meet the requirements of this section.

(b) A sun screening device when used in conjunction with the windshield must be nonreflective and may not be red, yellow or amber in color. A sun screening device may be used only along the top of the windshield and may not extend downward beyond the ASI line or more than five inches from the top of the windshield whichever is closer to the top of the windshield.

(c) A sun screening device when used in conjunction with the automotive safety glazing materials of the side wings or side windows located at the immediate right and left of the driver shall be a nonreflective type with reflectivity of not more than twenty percent (20%) and have a light transmission of not less than thirty-five percent (35%). The side windows behind the driver and the rear most windows may have a sun screening device that is designed to be used on automotive safety glazing materials that has a light transmission of not less than thirty-five percent (35%) and a reflectivity of not more than twenty percent (20%). If a sun screening device is used on glazing behind the driver, one right and one left outside rear view mirror is required.

(d) Each manufacturer shall:

- (1) Certify to the State Police and Division of Motor Vehicles that a sun screening device used by it is in compliance with the reflectivity and transmittance requirements of this section;
- (2) Provide a label not to exceed one and one-half square inches in size, with a means for the permanent and legible installations between the sun screening material and each glazing surface to which it is applied that contains the manufacturer's name and its percentage of light transmission; and

- (3) Include instructions with the product or material for proper installation, including the affixing of the label specified in this section. The labeling or marking must be placed in the left lower corner of each glazing surface when facing the vehicle from the outside.
- (e) No person shall:
- (1) Offer for sale or for use any sun screening product or material for motor vehicle use not in compliance with this section; or
 - (2) Install any sun screening product or material on vehicles intended for use on public roads without permanently affixing the label specified in this section.
- (f) The provisions of this section do not apply to a motor vehicle registered in this State in the name of a person, or the person's legal guardian, who has an affidavit signed by a physician or an optometrist licensed to practice in this State that states that the person has a physical condition that makes it necessary to equip the motor vehicle with sun screening material which would be of a light transmittance or luminous reflectance in violation of this section. The affidavit must be in the possession of the person so afflicted, or the person's legal guardian, at all times while being transported in the motor vehicle.
- (g) The light transmittance requirement of this section does not apply to windows behind the driver on trucks, buses, trailers, mobile homes and multipurpose passenger vehicles.
- (h) As used in this section:
- (1) "Bus" means a motor vehicle with motive power, except a trailer, designed for carrying more than ten persons.
 - (2) "Light transmission" means the ratio of the amount of total light to pass through a product or material to the amount of the total light falling on the product or material.
 - (3) "Luminous reflectants" means the ratio of the amount of total light that is reflected outward by the product or material to the amount of the total light falling on the product or materials.
 - (4) "Manufacturer" means any person engaged in the manufacturing or assembling of sun screening products or materials designed to be used in conjunction with vehicle glazing materials for the purpose of reducing the effects of the sun.
 - (5) "Motor homes" means vehicular units designed to provide temporary living quarters built into and an integral part of or permanently attached to a self-propelled motor vehicle chassis.
 - (6) "Multipurpose passenger vehicle" means a motor vehicle with motive power, except a trailer, designed to carry ten persons or less which is constructed either on a truck chassis or with special features for occasional offroad operation.

- (7) "Nonreflective" means a product or material designed to absorb light rather than to reflect it.
- (8) "Passenger car" means a motor vehicle with motive power, except a multipurpose passenger vehicle, motorcycle or trailer, designed for carrying ten persons or less.
- (9) "Sun screening device" means film material or device that is designed to be used in conjunction with motor vehicle safety glazing materials for reducing the effects of the sun.
- (10) "Truck" means a motor vehicle with motive power, except a trailer, designed primarily for the transportation of property or special purpose equipment.
(WVaC 17C-15-36a)

345.35 OPERATION OF VEHICLES WITH SAFETY BELTS.

(a) A person shall not operate a passenger vehicle on a public street or highway unless the person, any passenger in the back seat under eighteen years of age, and any passenger in the front seat of such passenger vehicle is restrained by a safety belt meeting applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards. For the purposes of this section, "passenger vehicle" means a motor vehicle which is designed for transporting ten passengers or less, including the driver, except that such term does not include a motorcycle, a trailer or any motor vehicle which is not required on the date of the enactment of this section under a federal motor vehicle safety standard to be equipped with a belt system. The provisions of this section shall apply to all passenger vehicles manufactured after the first day of January, 1967, and being 1968 models and newer.

(b) The required use of safety belts as provided herein does not apply to a duly appointed or contracted rural mail carrier of the United States Postal Service who is actually making mail deliveries or to a passenger or operator with a physically disabling condition whose physical disability would prevent appropriate restraint in such safety belt if the condition is duly certified by a physician who shall state the nature of the disability as well as the reason such restraint is inappropriate.

(c) A violation of this section is not admissible as evidence of negligence or contributory negligence or comparative negligence in any civil action or proceeding for damages, and shall not be admissible in mitigation of damages: provided, that the court may, upon motion of the defendant, conduct an in camera hearing to determine whether an injured party's failure to wear a safety belt was a proximate cause of the injuries complained of. Upon such a finding by the court, the court may then, in a jury trial, by special interrogatory to the jury, determine (1) that the injured party failed to wear a safety belt, and (2) that the failure to wear the safety belt constituted a failure to mitigate damages. The trier of fact may reduce the injured party's recovery for medical damages by an amount not to exceed five percent (5%) thereof. In the event the plaintiff stipulates to the reduction of five percent (5%) of medical damages, the court shall make the calculations and the issue of mitigation of damages for failure to wear a safety belt shall not be presented to the jury. In all cases, the actual computation of the dollar amount reduction shall be determined by the court.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code to the contrary, no points may be entered on any driver's record maintained by the Division of Motor Vehicles as a result of a violation of this section.

(e) Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to abrogate or alter the provisions of Section 345.31 relating to the mandatory use of child passenger safety devices. (WVaC 17C-15-49)

(f) Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be fined not more than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). No court costs or other fees shall be assessed for a violation of this section. Enforcement of this section shall be accomplished only as a secondary action when a driver of a passenger vehicle has been detained for probable cause of violating another section of this code.

345.99 PENALTY.

(a) General Article Penalty. Unless otherwise provided for in this article, any person violating any provision of this article shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00); upon a second conviction within one year thereafter, shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00); and upon a third or subsequent conviction, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

(b) Sunscreening Devices. Whoever violates Section 345.34 shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00). (WVaC 17C-15-36a)

ARTICLE 347
Commercial and Heavy Vehicles

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>347.01 Oversize or overweight vehicles.</p> <p>347.011 Special load limits.</p> <p>347.012 Single-axle load limit.</p> <p>347.013 Tandem-axle load limit.</p> <p>347.014 Gross weight of vehicles and loads.</p> <p>347.02 Projecting loads on passenger vehicles.</p> | <p>347.03 Maximum width, height and length.</p> <p>347.04 Loads dropping or leaking.</p> <p>347.05 Towing requirements.</p> <p>347.99 Penalty.</p> |
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CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law
 Authority to designate weight limits on local streets -
 see W. Va. Code 17C-2-8(a)(7)
 Authority to permit oversized buses - see W. Va.
 Code 17C-17-2(b)
 Red light or flag on extended load - see TRAF. 345.07
 Transporting explosives - see TRAF. 345.27

347.01 OVERSIZE OR OVERWEIGHT VEHICLES.

(a) No owner, lessee or borrower of a vehicle or combination of vehicles shall operate on any highway such vehicle or combination of vehicles, whether driven by such owner, lessee or borrower, or by some person on behalf of such owner, lessee or borrower, of a size or weight exceeding any limitation stated in this article, or otherwise in violation of any provision of this article, whether such limitation or provision be specifically stated in this article or set by express authority granted in this article, and the maximum size and weight of vehicles herein specified shall be lawful throughout this Town. Subject to the penalties for weight violations provided in Section 347.99, violation of this section shall constitute a misdemeanor.

(b) The provisions of this article governing size, weight and load shall not apply to fire apparatus, road machinery, or to implements of husbandry, including farm tractors, temporarily moved upon a highway, or to a vehicle operated under the terms of a special permit issued.

(c) The phrase "operate a vehicle or combination of vehicles" shall in this article be interpreted to mean the use of such vehicle or combination of vehicles on behalf of the owner, lessee or borrower, whether driven by him or by some person on behalf of him.
(1969 Code 17-5-1.)

347.011 SPECIAL LOAD LIMITS.

(a) Subject to the provisions of this article limiting the length of vehicles and loads, the load upon any vehicle operated alone or the load upon the front vehicle of a combination of vehicles shall not extend more than three feet beyond the foremost part of the vehicle, and the load upon any vehicle operated alone or the load upon the rear vehicle of a combination of vehicles shall not extend more than six feet beyond the rear of the bed or body of such vehicle.

(b) The limitations as to length of vehicles and loads heretofore stated in Sections 347.01 to 347.011(a) of this article shall not apply to any load upon a pole trailer when transporting poles or pipes or structural material which cannot be dismembered, provided that no pole or pipe or other material exceeding eighty feet in length shall be so transported unless a permit has first been obtained as authorized in West Virginia Code 17C-17-11.
(1969 Code 17-5-5.)

347.012 SINGLE-AXLE LOAD LIMIT.

(a) The gross weight imposed on the highway by the wheels of any one axle of a vehicle shall not exceed twenty thousand pounds.

(b) For the purpose of this article an axle load shall be defined as the total load transmitted to the road by all wheels whose centers are included between two parallel transverse vertical planes forty inches apart, extending across the full width of the vehicle.
(WVC 17C-17-8.)

347.013 TANDEM-AXLE LOAD LIMIT.

(a) The gross weight imposed on the highway by the wheels of a tandem-axle of a vehicle shall not exceed thirty-four thousand pounds.

(b) For the purpose of this article a tandem-axle load shall be defined as the total load transmitted to the road by two or more consecutive axles whose centers may be included between parallel transverse vertical planes spaced more than forty inches and not more than ninety-six inches apart, extending the full width of the vehicle.
(WVC 17C-17-8a.)

347.014 GROSS WEIGHT OF VEHICLES AND LOADS.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any owner, lessee or borrower of a vehicle or combination of vehicles to operate on any highway such vehicle or combination of vehicles with a gross weight in excess of the gross weight for which such vehicle or combination of vehicles is registered or in excess of any weight limitation set forth in this article, whether such limitation be specifically stated in this article or set by express authority granted in this article.

(b) Subject to the limit upon the weight imposed upon the highway through any one axle as set forth in Section 347.012, or the limit imposed upon the highway through any tandem-axle as set forth in Section 347.013, the total gross weight with load imposed upon the highway by any one group of two or more consecutive axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles shall not exceed the gross weight given for the respective distance between the first and last axle of the total group of axles measured longitudinally to the nearest foot as set forth in the following table:

Distance in feet between the extremes of any groups of two or more consecutive axles	Maximum load in pounds carried on any group of two or more consecutive axles				
	<u>2 axles</u>	<u>3 axles</u>	<u>4 axles</u>	<u>5 axles</u>	<u>6 axles</u>
4	34000				
5	34000				
6	34000				
7	34000				
8	34000	34000			
9	39000	42500			
10	40000	43500			
11		44000			
12		45000	50000		
13		45500	50500		
14		46500	51500		
15		47000	52000		
16		48000	52500	58000	
17		48500	53500	58500	
18		49500	54000	59000	
19		50000	54500	60000	
20		51000	55500	60500	66000
21		51500	56000	61000	66500
22		52500	56500	61500	67000
23		53000	57500	62500	68000
24		54000	58000	63000	68500
25		54500	58500	63500	69000
26		55500	59500	64000	69500
27		56000	60000	65000	70000
28		57000	60500	65500	71000
29		57500	61500	66000	71500
30		58500	62000	66500	72000
31		59000	62500	67500	72500
32		60000	63500	68000	73000
33			64000	68500	74000
34			64500	69000	74500
35			65500	70000	75000
36			66000	70500	75500
37			66500	71000	76000
38			67500	72000	77000
39			68000	72500	77500
40			68500	73000	78000

(b) Subject to the limit upon the weight imposed upon the highway through any one axle as set forth in Section 347.012, or the limit imposed upon the highway through any tandem-axle as set forth in Section 347.013, the total gross weight with load imposed upon the highway by any one group of two or more consecutive axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles shall not exceed the gross weight given for the respective distance between the first and last axle of the total group of axles measured longitudinally to the nearest foot as set forth in the following table:

Distance in feet between the extremes of any groups of two or more consecutive axles	Maximum load in pounds carried on any group of two or more consecutive axles				
	<u>2 axles</u>	<u>3 axles</u>	<u>4 axles</u>	<u>5 axles</u>	<u>6 axles</u>
4	34000				
5	34000				
6	34000				
7	34000				
8	34000	34000			
9	39000	42500			
10	40000	43500			
11		44000			
12		45000	50000		
13		45500	50500		
14		46500	51500		
15		47000	52000		
16		48000	52500	58000	
17		48500	53500	58500	
18		49500	54000	59000	
19		50000	54500	60000	
20		51000	55500	60500	66000
21		51500	56000	61000	66500
22		52500	56500	61500	67000
23		53000	57500	62500	68000
24		54000	58000	63000	68500
25		54500	58500	63500	69000
26		55500	59500	64000	69500
27		56000	60000	65000	70000
28		57000	60500	65500	71000
29		57500	61500	66000	71500
30		58500	62000	66500	72000
31		59000	62500	67500	72500
32		60000	63500	68000	73000
33			64000	68500	74000
34			64500	69000	74500
35			65500	70000	75000
36			66000	70500	75500
37			66500	71000	76000
38			67500	72000	77000
39			68000	72500	77500
40			68500	73000	78000

Distance in feet between the extremes of any groups of two or more consecutive axles	Maximum load in pounds carried on any group of two or more consecutive axles				
	<u>2 axles</u>	<u>3 axles</u>	<u>4 axles</u>	<u>5 axles</u>	<u>6 axles</u>
41			69500	73500	78500
42			70000	74000	79000
43			70500	75000	80000
44			71500	75500	80500
45			72000	76000	81000
46			72500	76500	81500
47			73500	77500	82000
48			74000	78000	83000
49			74500	78500	83500
50			75500	79000	84000
51			76000	80000	84500
52			76500	80500	85000
53			77500	81000	86000
54			78000	81500	86500
55			78500	82500	87000
56			79500	83000	87500
57			80000	83500	88000
58				84000	89000
59				85000	89500
60				85500	90000

Provided, that no vehicle or combination of vehicles shall have a gross weight, including the load, in excess in sixty-five thousand pounds, except that the maximum gross weight of vehicles operating on the national system of interstate and defense highways and any highway providing reasonable access to and from terminals and facilities for food, fuel, repairs and rest within the State shall not be in excess of eighty thousand pounds and except as otherwise provided in this article. Notwithstanding the limits prescribed in subsection (b) of this section, two consecutive sets of tandem-axles may carry a gross load of thirty-four thousand pounds each providing the overall distance between the first and last axles of such consecutive sets of tandem-axles is thirty-six feet or more: provided, however, that the limits prescribed in subsection (b) of this section shall not prohibit the operation of any vehicle or combination of vehicles of a type which could be lawfully operated in accordance with gross vehicle weights in effect on the first day of January, one thousand nine hundred seventy-five: provided, further, that no maximum weight in excess of or in conflict with any weight limitations prescribed by or pursuant to any act of Congress shall be permitted on the national system of interstate and defense highways.
(WVC 17C-17-9)

347.02 PROJECTING LOADS ON PASSENGER VEHICLES.

No passenger-type vehicle shall be operated on any street or highway with any load carried thereon extending beyond the line of the fenders of the left side of such vehicle nor extending more than six inches beyond the line of the fenders on the right side thereof.
(WVaC 17C-17-3)

347.03 MAXIMUM WIDTH, HEIGHT AND LENGTH.

(a) A vehicle including any load thereon shall not exceed a height of thirteen feet six inches, but the owner or owners of such vehicles shall be responsible for damage to any bridge or highway structure and to the Municipality for any damage to traffic control devices or other highway structures where such bridges, devices or structures have a vehicle clearance of less than thirteen feet six inches.

(b) A motor vehicle including any load thereon shall not exceed a length of forty feet extreme overall dimension, inclusive of front and rear bumpers.

(c) Except as hereinafter provided, a combination of vehicles coupled together shall not consist of more than two units, and no such combination of vehicles including any load thereon shall have an overall length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers, in excess of fifty-five feet, except as provided in West Virginia Code 17C-17-11b, and except as otherwise provided in respect to the use of a pole trailer as authorized in West Virginia Code 17C-17-5: provided, that the limitation that a combination of vehicles coupled together shall not consist of more than two units shall not apply to a combination of vehicles coupled together by a saddle mount device used to transport motor vehicles in a drive-away service when no more than three saddle mounts are used: provided, however, that equipment used in such combination meets the requirements of the safety regulations of the United States Department of Transportation and shall not exceed an overall length of more than sixty-five feet.

(d) The length limitations for truck tractor-semitrailer combinations and truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combinations operating on the national system of interstate and defense highways and those classes of qualifying federal-aid primary system highways so designated by the United States Secretary of Transportation, and those highways providing reasonable access to and from terminals, facilities for food, fuel, repairs and rest, and points of loading and unloading for household goods carriers from such highways, and further, as to other highways so designated by the West Virginia Commissioner of Highways, shall be as follows: the maximum length of a semitrailer unit operating in a truck tractor-semitrailer combination shall not exceed forty-eight feet in length, except where semitrailers have an axle spacing of not more than thirty-seven feet between the rear axle of the truck tractor and the front axle of the semitrailer, such semitrailer shall be allowed to be not more than fifty-three feet in length and the maximum length of any semitrailer or trailer operating in a truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination shall not exceed twenty-eight and one-half feet in length and in no event shall any combinations exceed three units, including the truck tractor: provided, that nothing herein contained shall impose an overall length limitation as to commercial motor vehicles operating in truck tractor-semitrailer or truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combinations.
(WVaC 17C-17-4)

(e) The total outside width, exclusive of safety equipment authorized by the United States Department of Transportation, of any vehicle or the load thereon shall not exceed ninety-six inches, except as otherwise provided in West Virginia Code Article 17C-17: provided, that any vehicle with a total outside width of 102 inches, exclusive of safety equipment authorized by the United States Department of Transportation, may be operated on any street or highway designated by the United States Department of Transportation or the Commissioner of the Department of Highways or on any street or highway having a minimum lane width of ten feet.

(f) Motor buses with a total outside width of 102 inches, excluding safety equipment authorized by the United States Department of Transportation may operate on any street or highway.

(WVaC 17C-17-2)

347.04 LOADS DROPPING OR LEAKING.

(a) No vehicle or combination of vehicles shall be operated on any street or highway unless such vehicle or combination of vehicles is so constructed or loaded as to prevent any of its load from dropping, sifting, leaking, or otherwise escaping therefrom, except that sand may be dropped for the purpose of securing traction, or water or other substance may be sprinkled on a roadway in cleaning or maintaining such roadway.

(b) No person shall operate on any street or highway any vehicle or combination of vehicles with any load unless such load and any covering thereon is securely fastened so as to prevent such covering or load from becoming loose, detached or in any manner a hazard to other users of the street or highway.

(WVaC 17C-17-6)

347.05 TOWING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) When one vehicle is towing another the drawbar or other connection shall be of sufficient strength to pull all weight towed thereby and such drawbar or other connection shall not exceed fifteen feet from one vehicle to the other except the connection between any two vehicles transporting poles, pipe, machinery or other objects of structural nature which cannot readily be dismembered.

(b) When one vehicle is towing another and the connection consists of a chain, rope or cable, there shall be displayed upon such connection a white flag or cloth not less than twelve inches square.

(WVaC 17C-17-7)

347.99 PENALTY.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See Section 303.99 for general Traffic Code penalty.)

Any owner, lessee or borrower of a vehicle or combination of vehicles who operates or permits to be operated on any highway such vehicle or combination of vehicles with any axle load in excess of that permitted by Sections 347.012 and 347.013, or with a total gross weight with load imposed upon the highway by any one group of two or more consecutive axles in excess of that permitted by Section 347.014, shall be punished by a fine scheduled in proportion to the amount of pounds in excess of the registered weight, or in excess of allowable weights for single axle, or in excess of allowable weights for groups of two or more consecutive axles, in accordance with the schedule in words and figures as follows:

Pounds in excess of registered weight, or in excess of allowable weights for single axle, or in excess of allowable weights for groups of two or more consecutive axles.

	<u>Amount of Fine</u>
1 to 4,000	\$20.00
4,001 to 5,000	25.00
5,001 to 6,000	60.00
6,001 to 7,000	70.00
7,001 to 8,000	80.00
8,001 to 9,000	90.00
9,001 to 10,000	100.00
10,001 to 11,000	165.00
11,001 to 12,000	180.00
12,001 to 13,000	195.00
13,001 to 14,000	210.00
14,001 to 15,000	225.00
15,001 to 16,000	320.00
16,001 to 17,000	340.00
17,001 to 18,000	360.00
18,001 to 19,000	380.00
19,001 to 20,000	400.00
20,001 to 21,000	525.00
21,001 to 22,000	550.00
22,001 to 23,000	575.00
23,001 to 24,000	600.00
24,001 to 25,000	625.00
25,001 to 26,000	780.00
26,001 to 27,000	810.00
27,001 to 28,000	840.00
28,001 to 29,000	870.00
29,001 to 30,000	900.00
30,001 to 40,000	1,200.00
40,001 to 50,000	1,400.00
50,001 and over	1,600.00

In the event any owner, lessee or borrower of a vehicle is charged with violating this article, the vehicle which is charged to be overloaded shall be impounded by the arresting officer and shall not be released to such owner, lessee or borrower unless and until such owner, lessee or borrower either shall have been found guilty and paid any fine assessed against such owner, lessee or borrower, or shall have furnished cash or surety bond in at least double the amount of the fine which may be assessed against such owner, lessee or borrower for such violation of this section and conditioned upon the payment of any such fine and costs assessed for such violation, or shall have been acquitted of such charge. Such owner, lessee or borrower shall be liable for any reasonable storage costs incurred in storing such vehicle: provided, that if the owner of such vehicle is a resident of or has a principal place of business located in this State, and said vehicle has been duly licensed in the State, then said vehicle shall not be impounded but the arresting officer shall deliver to the driver a written notice stating such violation; the place, date and time; the license number of said vehicle; the title number and name and address of the owner; the driver's name, address and the number of his operator's or chauffeur's card or permit; and the court, place, date and time for hearing, which shall be within five days of such violation (Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, excluded). A copy of such notice shall within forty-eight hours be mailed to the owner of said vehicle. Upon failure by such owner or his or its agent to appear at the designated time and place, or upon failure to pay the fine and costs assessed for such violation, unless such owner shall have been acquitted of such charge, the court shall order a bond or the impounding of said vehicle as provided in this section.

(WVC 17C-17-14)

ARTICLE 349
Miscellaneous Rules

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>349.01 Unattended motor vehicle.</p> <p>349.02 Backing a vehicle.</p> <p>349.03 Drivers' view and control to be unobstructed by load or persons.</p> <p>349.04 Passengers in seat with operator.</p> <p>349.05 Passengers on running board.</p> <p>349.06 Following authorized emergency vehicles.</p> <p>349.07 Driving over fire hose.</p> <p>349.08 Funeral processions.</p> <p>349.09 Opening door of vehicle on traffic side.</p> <p>349.10 Boarding or alighting from vehicle.</p> <p>349.11 Unauthorized riding or jumping onto vehicles.</p> | <p>349.12 Squealing tires, cracking exhaust noises.</p> <p>349.13 Taking, injuring or tampering with vehicle.</p> <p>349.14 Driving upon sidewalk, street lawn or curb.</p> <p>349.15 Shortcutting; avoiding traffic control devices.</p> <p>349.16 Coasting prohibited.</p> <p>349.17 Driving through safety zone.</p> <p>349.18 Driving upon street posted as closed for repair.</p> <p>349.19 Obstruction of traffic.</p> <p>349.20 Vehicle security.</p> <p>349.99 Penalty.</p> |
|---|---|

CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law
Obedience to traffic control devices - see TRAF. 313.01

349.01 UNATTENDED MOTOR VEHICLE.

No person driving or in charge of a motor vehicle shall permit it to stand unattended without first stopping the engine, locking the ignition, removing the key, and effectively setting the brake thereon and, when standing upon any grade, turning the front wheels to the curb or side of the street or highway.

(WVaC 17C-14-1)

349.02 BACKING A VEHICLE.

The driver of a vehicle shall not back the same unless such movement can be made with reasonable safety and without interfering with other traffic.

(WVaC 17C-14-2)

349.03 DRIVERS' VIEW AND CONTROL TO BE UNOBSTRUCTED BY LOAD OR PERSONS.

(a) No person shall drive a vehicle when it is so loaded as to obstruct the view of the driver to the front or sides of the vehicle or as to interfere with the driver's control over the driving mechanism of the vehicle.

(b) No passenger in a vehicle shall ride in such position as to interfere with the driver's view ahead or to the sides, or to interfere with his or her control over the driving mechanism of the vehicle.

(WVaC 17C-14-4)

349.04 PASSENGERS IN SEAT WITH OPERATOR.

No more than three persons including the operator shall ride or be permitted by such operator to ride in the seat with the operator of any motor vehicle while such motor vehicle is being operated on the streets or highways of this Municipality: provided, however, that the limitation of this section shall not apply to a truck cab or truck crew compartment properly designed for the occupancy of four persons including the operator, and so designated on the registration card by the Division of Motor Vehicles.

(WVaC 17C-14-5)

349.05 PASSENGERS ON RUNNING BOARD.

No passenger shall ride nor shall the operator permit any passenger to ride on the running boards of any motor vehicle while such vehicle is being operated on the streets or highways of this Municipality.

(WVaC 17C-14-6)

349.06 FOLLOWING AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLES.

The driver of any vehicle other than one on official business may not follow any authorized emergency vehicle traveling in response to a fire alarm or other emergency closer than 500 feet or drive into or park such vehicle within the block where such authorized emergency vehicle has stopped in answer to a fire alarm or other emergency.

(WVaC 17C-14-9)

349.07 DRIVING OVER FIRE HOSE.

No vehicle shall be driven over any unprotected hose of the Fire Department when laid down on any street or private driveway to be used at any fire or alarm of fire, without the consent of the Fire Department official in command.

(WVaC 17C-14-10)

349.08 FUNERAL PROCESSIONS.**(a) Definitions.**

- (1) "Funeral director" and "funeral establishment" have the same meaning as set forth in West Virginia Code 30-6-4.
- (2) "Funeral procession" means two or more vehicles accompanying the body of a deceased person, or traveling to the church, chapel, cemetery, or other location at which the funeral service or final disposition is to be held, including a funeral lead vehicle or a funeral escort vehicle.
- (3) "Funeral lead vehicle" means any authorized law enforcement or nonlaw-enforcement motor vehicle or a funeral escort vehicle being used to lead and facilitate the movement of a funeral procession. A funeral hearse may serve as a funeral lead vehicle.

- (4) "Funeral escort" means a person or entity that provides escort services for funeral processions, including law-enforcement personnel and agencies.
- (5) "Funeral escort vehicle" means any motor vehicle that escorts a funeral procession.

(b) Funeral Procession Right-Of-Way.

- (1) Regardless of any traffic control device or right-of-way provisions prescribed by state or local ordinance, pedestrians and operators of all vehicles, except as stated in subsection (b)(3) of this section, shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle which is part of a funeral procession being led by a funeral escort vehicle or a funeral lead vehicle.
- (2) When the funeral lead vehicle lawfully enters an intersection, either by reason of a traffic control device or at the direction of law-enforcement personnel, the remaining vehicles in the funeral procession may follow through the intersection regardless of any traffic control devices or right-of-way provisions prescribed by state or local law.
- (3) Funeral processions have the right-of-way at intersections regardless of traffic control devices subject to the following conditions and exceptions:
 - A. Operators of vehicles in a funeral procession shall yield the right-of-way to an approaching emergency vehicle giving an audible or visible signal;
 - B. Operators of vehicles in a funeral procession shall yield the right-of-way when directed to do so by a police officer; and
 - C. Operators of vehicles in a funeral procession must exercise due care when participating in a funeral procession.

(c) Driving in Procession.

- (1) All vehicles comprising a funeral procession shall follow the preceding vehicle in the funeral procession as closely as is practical and safe.
- (2) Any ordinance, law or rule stating that motor vehicles shall be operated to allow sufficient space enabling any other vehicle to enter and occupy such space without danger is not applicable to vehicles in a funeral procession.

(d) Liability. Liability for any death, personal injury or property damage suffered on or after the first day of July, one thousand nine hundred ninety-nine, by any person in a funeral procession may not be imposed upon a funeral director or funeral establishment or their employees or agents unless the death, personal injury or property damage is proximately caused by the negligent or intentional act of a funeral director or funeral establishment or their employees or agents.

(e) Equipment. All nonlaw-enforcement funeral escort vehicles and funeral lead vehicles may be equipped with at least one lighted circulation flashing lamp exhibiting an amber or purple light or lens. Flashing amber or purple lights may be used when such vehicles are used in a funeral procession. (WVaC Art. 17C-23)

349.09 OPENING DOOR OF VEHICLE ON TRAFFIC SIDE.

No person shall open the door of a motor vehicle on the side available to moving traffic unless and until it is reasonably safe to do so, nor shall any person leave a door open on the side of a motor vehicle available to moving traffic for a period of time longer than is necessary to load or unload passengers.

349.10 BOARDING OR ALIGHTING FROM VEHICLE.

No person shall board or alight from any vehicle while such vehicle is in motion.

349.11 UNLAWFUL RIDING.

No person shall ride on any vehicle upon any portion thereof not designated or intended for the use of passengers when the vehicle is in motion. This provision shall not apply to an employee engaged in the necessary discharge of a duty or to persons riding within truck bodies in space intended for merchandise.

349.12 SQUEALING TIRES, CRACKING EXHAUST NOISES.

No person shall unnecessarily race the motor of any vehicle and no person shall operate any motor vehicle, except in an emergency, in such a manner that the vehicle is so rapidly accelerated or started from a stopped position that the exhaust system emits a loud, cracking or chattering noise unusual to its normal operation, or whereby the tires of such vehicle squeal or leave tire marks on the roadway, commonly called "peeling".

349.13 TAKING, INJURING OR TAMPERING WITH VEHICLE.

(a) No person shall drive a vehicle, not his or her own, without consent of the owner thereof, and with intent temporarily to deprive such owner of his or her possession of such vehicle, but without intent to steal the vehicle. The consent of the owner of a vehicle to its taking or driving shall not in any case be presumed or implied because of such owner's consent on a previous occasion to the taking or driving of such vehicle by the same or a different person. Any person who assists in, or is a party or accessory to or an accomplice in any such unauthorized taking or driving, shall also be guilty of a violation of this section.

(WVaC 17A-8-4)

(b) No person either individually or in association with one or more persons shall willfully injure or tamper with any vehicle or break or remove any part or parts of or from a vehicle without the consent of the owner.

No person with intent to commit any malicious mischief, injury or other crime shall climb into or upon a vehicle whether it is in motion or at rest or with like intent attempt to manipulate any of the levers, starting mechanism, brakes or other mechanism or device of a vehicle while the same is at rest and unattended or with like intent set in motion any vehicle while the same is at rest and unattended.

(WVaC 17A-8-6)

349.14 DRIVING UPON SIDEWALK, STREET LAWN OR CURB.

(a) No person shall drive any vehicle, other than a bicycle, upon a sidewalk or sidewalk area except upon a permanent or duly authorized temporary driveway.

(b) No person shall drive a vehicle on a street lawn area or the curb of a street, except upon a permanent or duly authorized temporary driveway or when otherwise lawfully authorized.

349.15 SHORTCUTTING; AVOIDING TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES.

(a) No person shall operate a motor vehicle across public or private property marked with signs "No Through Traffic" or words of similar import for the purpose of passing from one roadway to another.

(b) No person shall operate a motor vehicle across public or private property for the purpose of avoiding compliance with a traffic control device.

(c) It shall be prima-facie evidence of a violation of this section for the operator of a motor vehicle to cross public or private property as provided herein without using the service of such property, stopping the engine or both.

349.16 COASTING PROHIBITED.

The operator of any motor vehicle when traveling on a down grade on any street, alley or highway shall not coast with the gears of such vehicle in neutral.

349.17 DRIVING THROUGH SAFETY ZONE.

No operator of a vehicle shall drive the same over or through a safety zone.

349.18 DRIVING UPON STREET POSTED AS CLOSED FOR REPAIR.

No person shall drive upon, along or across a street or highway, or any part thereof, which has been closed in the process of its construction, reconstruction or repair, and posted with appropriate signs by the authority having jurisdiction to close such street or highway.

349.19 OBSTRUCTION OF TRAFFIC.

No person shall operate, stop, stand or park any motor vehicle on any street or alley within the Municipality so as to obstruct or hinder the free flow of motor vehicle traffic except in compliance with a lawful order of a police officer or in compliance with a traffic control sign, signal or marking.

349.20 VEHICLE SECURITY.

Every owner or registrant of a motor vehicle shall maintain security upon such vehicle as required by West Virginia Code Article 17D-2A, and no person shall knowingly drive or operate on any street within the Municipality any motor vehicle upon which security is required by such Article unless the security is provided, and violation of any of the provisions of West Virginia Code Article 17D-2A including failure to have a certificate of insurance, if required, shall constitute a violation under this section.

349.99 PENALTY.

(a) General Article Penalty. Whoever violates any provision of this article for which no other penalty is provided shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00); upon a second conviction within one year thereafter shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00); and upon a third or subsequent conviction, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

(b) Taking, Injuring or Tampering With Vehicle. Whoever violates Section 349.13 shall, for a first offense, be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00). (WVaC 17A-11-1)

(c) Vehicle Security. Whoever violates Section 349.20 shall be fined not less than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) or more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

**ARTICLE 351
Licensing Generally**

- | | | | |
|--------|--|--------|--|
| 351.01 | Registration, certificate of title required. | 351.07 | Persons exempt from license. |
| 351.02 | Registration card. | 351.08 | Display of license. |
| 351.03 | Display of registration plates. | 351.09 | Certain acts prohibited. |
| 351.04 | Operation of vehicle without evidence of registration; use of temporary facsimile. | 351.10 | Driving under suspension or revocation. |
| 351.05 | Improper use of registration card, plate or permit. | 351.11 | Owner or operator allowing another to drive. |
| 351.06 | Driver or motorcycle license required. | 351.12 | Registration of vehicles of new residents. |
| | | 351.99 | Penalty. |

CROSS REFERENCES

- Impounding unlicensed vehicle - see TRAF. 303.07
Illumination of license plate - see TRAF. 345.05(c)

351.01 REGISTRATION, CERTIFICATE OF TITLE REQUIRED.

No person shall drive or move and no owner shall knowingly permit to be driven or moved upon any street or highway any vehicle of a type required to be registered under West Virginia Code Chapter 17-A which is not registered or for which a certificate of title has not been issued or applied for or for which the appropriate fee has not been paid when and as required, except as otherwise permitted by the provisions therein: provided, that in the event of the sale of a vehicle by a person other than a registered dealer, the person purchasing the same may, for a period of not more than ten days, operate such vehicle under the registration of its previous owner and display the registration thereof: provided further that he shall have and display on the demand of any proper officer the consent in writing of such previous owner so to use such registration. (WVaC 17A-3-1)

351.02 REGISTRATION CARD.

Every owner upon receipt of a registration card shall write his signature thereon with pen and ink in the space provided. Every such registration card shall at all times be carried in the vehicle to which it refers or shall be carried by the person driving or in control of such vehicle who shall display the same upon demand of a police officer or any officer or employee of the Department of Motor Vehicles. (WVaC 17A-3-13)

351.03 DISPLAY OF REGISTRATION PLATES.

Registration plates issued for vehicles required to be registered shall be attached to the rear thereof except that on truck tractors and road tractors designed and constructed to pull trailers or semi-trailers, the registration plate shall be mounted to the front.

Every registration plate shall at all times be securely fastened in a horizontal position to the vehicle for which it is issued so as to prevent the plate from swinging and at a height of not less than twelve inches from the ground, measuring from the bottom of such plate, in a place and position to be clearly visible and shall be maintained free from foreign materials and in a condition to be clearly legible.

(WVaC 17A-3-15)

351.04 OPERATION OF VEHICLE WITHOUT EVIDENCE OF REGISTRATION; USE OF TEMPORARY FACSIMILE.

No person shall operate or park, nor shall an owner knowingly permit to be operated or parked upon any street or highway any vehicle required to be registered unless there is attached thereto and displayed thereon or is in the possession of the operator when and as required by this Traffic Code, a valid registration card and registration plate or plates issued therefor by the Department of Motor Vehicles for the current registration year except as otherwise expressly permitted in West Virginia Code Chapter 17-A.

In the event that the registration plate or plates originally issued are lost, destroyed or stolen, a temporary facsimile of the plate or plates, showing the number of the same, may be attached to the vehicle by the owner for a period of not more than fifteen days, or until a new plate or plates are issued by the Department whichever is earlier: provided, that no such facsimile shall be used and no such vehicle shall be driven upon the streets or highways of this Municipality until the owner has notified in writing the State Police of the loss of such registration plate or plates.

(WVaC 17A-9-2)

351.05 IMPROPER USE OF REGISTRATION CARD, PLATE OR PERMIT.

No person shall lend to another any certificate of title, registration card, registration plate, special plate or permit issued to him if the person desiring to borrow the same would not be entitled to the use thereof, nor shall any person knowingly permit the use of any of the same by one not entitled thereto, nor shall any person display upon a vehicle any registration card, registration plates or permit not issued for such vehicle or not otherwise lawfully used thereon under this Traffic Code. (WVaC 17A-9-3)

351.06 DRIVER OR MOTORCYCLE LICENSE REQUIRED.

(a) No person, except those hereinafter expressly exempted, shall drive any motor vehicle upon a street or highway in this Municipality or upon any subdivision street, as used in West Virginia Code Article 8-24, when the use of such subdivision street is generally used by the public unless the person has a valid driver's license under the provisions of the West Virginia Code for the type or class of vehicle being driven.

Any person licensed to operate a motor vehicle as provided in the West Virginia Code may exercise the privilege thereby granted as provided in the West Virginia Code and, except as otherwise provided by law, shall not be required to obtain any other license to exercise such privilege by any county, municipality or local board or body having authority to adopt local police regulations.

(b) No person, except those hereinafter expressly exempted, shall drive any motorcycle upon a street or highway in this Municipality or upon any subdivision street, as used in West Virginia Code Article 8-24 when the use of such subdivision street is generally used by the public unless the person has a valid motorcycle license or a valid license which has been endorsed under West Virginia Code 17B-2-7b for motorcycle operation or has a valid motorcycle instruction permit.

(WVaC 17B-2-1)

351.07 PERSONS EXEMPT FROM LICENSE.

The following persons are exempt from the license required under Section 351.06:

- (a) Any person while operating a motor vehicle in the armed services of the United States while in the performance of his official duties;
- (b) A nonresident who is at least sixteen years of age and who has in his or her immediate possession a valid driver's license issued to the person in the person's home state or country unless the Commissioner determines the person's home state or country does not extend the same privileges to a resident of this State, may operate a motor vehicle in this State only as a noncommercial driver for a period not to exceed ninety days in any one calendar year;
- (c) A nonresident who is at least sixteen years of age, who has in the person's immediate possession a valid driver's license issued to the person in the person's home state or country and who is employed in this State, or owns, maintains or operates a place or places of business in this State, or engages in any trade, profession or occupation in this State, in addition to the driving privileges extended under subsection (b) hereof, unless the Commissioner determines the person's home state or country does not extend the same privileges to a resident of this State, may operate a motor vehicle in this State only as a noncommercial driver in traveling to and from the person's place or places of employment, place or places of business or place or places at which the person engages in the trade, profession or occupation and in the discharge of the duties of the person's employment, business, trade, profession or occupation if the duties are such that, if performed by a resident of the State of West Virginia over the age of eighteen years of age, the resident would not be required under the provisions of West Virginia Code Chapter 17 to obtain a Class A, B, C or D driver's license. However, this subsection shall not exempt any person who is required to obtain a West Virginia driver's license in accordance with the provisions of West Virginia Code 17B-2-1a;
- (d) A nonresident who is at least eighteen years of age and who has in his or her immediate possession a valid commercial driver's license issued to the person in his or her home state or country and which meets the requirements of the federal commercial motor vehicle act of 1986, Title XI of public law 99-570 and unless the Commissioner determines the person's home state or country does not extend the same privilege to a resident of this State may operate a motor vehicle in this State either as a commercial driver subject to the age limits applicable to commercial driver in this State, or as a noncommercial driver subject to the limitations imposed on nonresident drivers in subsections (b) and (c) hereof;
- (e) Any person who is a student, properly enrolled and registered in an accredited school, college or university in this State, who is at least sixteen years of age and who has in his or her immediate possession a valid driver's license issued to the person in the person's home state, notwithstanding the limitations of subsections (b) and (c) hereof may operate motor vehicle in this State only as noncommercial driver: provided, that the state of which the person is a resident shall extend the same privileges to residents of this State. This exemption shall be canceled immediately when the student is graduated from school, college or university or is expelled or ceases to be a student. (WVaC 17B-2-2)

351.08 DISPLAY OF LICENSE.

Every licensee shall have his or her driver's license in such person's immediate possession at all times when operating a motor vehicle and shall display the same, upon demand of a magistrate, municipal judge, circuit court judge, peace officer or an employee of the Division of Motor Vehicles. However, no person charged with violating this section shall be convicted if such person produces in court or the office of the arresting officer a driver's license theretofore issued to such person and valid at the time of such person's arrest.

(WVaC 17B-2-9)

351.09 CERTAIN ACTS PROHIBITED.

No person shall commit any one of the following acts:

- (a) Display or cause or permit to be displayed or have in his possession any fictitious or fraudulently altered driver's or commercial driver's license or nonoperator's identification;
- (b) Lend his driver's or commercial driver's license or nonoperator's identification to any other person or knowingly permit the use thereof by another;
- (c) Display or represent as one's own any driver's or commercial driver's license or nonoperator's identification not issued to him;
- (d) Use a false or fictitious name in any application for a driver's or commercial driver's license or nonoperator's identification or knowingly make a false statement or knowingly conceal a material fact or otherwise commit a fraud in any such application;
- (e) Permit any unlawful use of a driver's or commercial driver's license or nonoperator's identification issued to him; or
- (f) Do any act forbidden or fail to perform any act required by this Traffic Code or West Virginia Code Chapter 17.

(WVaC 17B-4-1)

351.10 DRIVING UNDER SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION.

No person shall drive a motor vehicle on any public street or highway of this Municipality at a time when his privilege so to do has been lawfully suspended or revoked.

(WVaC 17B-4-3)

351.11 OWNER OR OPERATOR ALLOWING ANOTHER TO DRIVE.

No person shall authorize or knowingly permit a motor vehicle owned by him or under his control to be driven upon any street or highway by any person who is not authorized hereunder or in violation of any of the provisions of this Traffic Code.

(WVaC 17B-4-4)

351.12 REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES OF NEW RESIDENTS.

(a) Every owner of a motor vehicle, trailer or other vehicle, shall, within thirty days after taking up residence in this State, apply to the Division of Transportation and obtain registration and title for the vehicle.

(b) For the purposes of this section, there is a rebuttable presumption that a natural person is a resident of this State if any of the following elements exist, including, but not limited to:

- (1) The person is registered to vote in this State;
- (2) The person enrolls the person's child to be educated in a public elementary or secondary school in this State;
- (3) The person is receiving public assistance from this State;
- (4) The person resides or has continuously remained in this State for a period of thirty days, except for infrequent or brief absences;
- (5) The person has accepted employment or engages in any trade, profession or occupation within this State, except that this does not include a person who is commuting from the person's residence in another state or whose employment is seasonal or temporary, not exceeding ninety days;
- (6) The person has filed for a homestead tax exemption on property in this State.

(c) "Resident" does not include a person who is attending a college, university or other educational institution in this State, if the person has a domicile in another state and has a valid operator's license and vehicle registration issued by the state of domicile. "Resident" also does not include members of the armed forces that are stationed in West Virginia providing that their vehicles are properly registered in their state of residence or a member of the armed forces stationed in another state or country, providing that their vehicles are properly registered in that state or country.

A corporation, association, partnership, company or firm whose principal place of business is located within this State is a resident of this State.

(d) The provisions of this section shall not apply to vehicles registered under proportional registration agreement.
(WVC 17A-3-1a; Ord. 1-7-92.)

351.99 PENALTY.

(a) General Article Penalty. Whoever violates any provision of this article for which no other penalty is provided shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

(b) Driving Under Suspension or Revocation.

(1) Except as otherwise provided in West Virginia Code 17B-4-3(b), or subsection (b)(2) hereof, whoever drives a motor vehicle on any street or highway of this Municipality at a time when his privilege so to do has been lawfully suspended or revoked shall, for the first offense, be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00); for the second offense, such person, shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00); for the third or any subsequent offense, such person shall be fined not less than one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

A record of the conviction of any person under this section upon a charge of driving a vehicle while the license of such person was suspended lawfully shall be sent to the State Department of Motor Vehicles.

(2) Any person who drives a motor vehicle on any public street or highway of this Municipality at a time when his or her privilege to do so has been lawfully suspended for driving while under the age of twenty-one years with an alcohol concentration in his or her blood of two hundredths of one percent or more, by weight, but less than ten hundredths of one percent, shall be fined not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

**ARTICLE 353
Commercial Drivers**

353.01	Definitions.	353.05	Exemptions.
353.02	Limitation on number of driver's licenses.	353.06	Drivers prohibited from operating with any alcohol in system.
353.03	Employer responsibilities.	353.99	Penalty.
353.04	Commercial driver's license required.		

CROSS REFERENCES

Uniform Commercial Driver's License Act - see W.Va. Code
Art. 17E-1
Commercial vehicles - see TRAF. Art. 347
Driver's licensing - see TRAF. Art. 351

353.01 DEFINITIONS.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Traffic Code, the following definitions apply to this article:

- (a) "Alcohol" means:
- (1) Any substance containing any form of alcohol, including, but not limited to, ethanol, methanol, propanol and isopropanol;
 - (2) Beer, ale, port or stout and other similar fermented beverages (including sake or similar products) of any name or description containing one half of one percent (0.5%) or more of alcohol by volume, brewed or produced from malt, wholly or in part, or from any substitute therefor;
 - (3) Distilled spirits or that substance known as ethyl alcohol, ethanol or spirits of wine in any form (including all dilutions and mixtures thereof from whatever source or by whatever process produced); or
 - (4) Wine of not less than one half of one percent (0.5%) of alcohol by volume.

- (b) "Alcohol concentration" means:
 - (1) The number of grams of alcohol per 100 milliliters of blood; or
 - (2) The number of grams of alcohol per 210 liters of breath; or
 - (3) The number of grams of alcohol per sixty-seven milliliters of urine.
- (c) "Commercial driver license" means a license issued in accordance with the requirements of West Virginia Code Article 17E-1 to an individual which authorizes the individual to drive a class of commercial motor vehicle.
- (d) "Commercial driver instruction permit" means a permit issued pursuant to West Virginia Code 17E-1-9(d).
- (e) "Commercial motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle designed or used to transport passengers or property:
 - (1) If the vehicle has a gross vehicle weight rating as determined by federal regulation;
 - (2) If the vehicle is designed to transport sixteen or more passengers, including the driver; or
 - (3) If the vehicle is transporting hazardous materials and is required to be placarded in accordance with 49 C.F.R. part 172, sub-part F.
- (f) "Conviction" means the final judgment in a judicial or administrative proceeding or a verdict or finding of guilty, a plea of guilty, a plea of nolo contendere, or a forfeiture of bond or collateral upon a charge of a disqualifying offense, as a result of proceedings upon any violation of the requirement of this article.
- (g) "Disqualification" means a prohibition against driving a commercial motor vehicle.
- (h) "Drive" means to drive, operate or be in physical control of a motor vehicle in any place open to the general public for purposes of vehicular traffic. For purposes of Section 353.06 "drive" includes operation or physical control of a motor vehicle anywhere in this Municipality.
- (i) "Driver" means any person who drives, operates or is in physical control of a commercial motor vehicle, in any place open to the general public for purposes of vehicular traffic, or who is required to hold a commercial driver license.
- (j) "Driver license" means a license issued by a state to an individual which authorizes the individual to drive a motor vehicle of a specific class.
- (k) "Employee" means a person who is employed by an employer to drive a commercial motor vehicle, including independent contractors. An employee who is self employed as a commercial motor vehicle driver must comply with both the requirements of this article pertaining to employees and employers.
- (l) "Employer" means any person, including the United States, a state or a political subdivision of a state, who owns or leases a commercial motor vehicle, or assigns a person to drive a commercial motor vehicle.

- (m) "Farm vehicle" includes a motor vehicle or combination vehicle registered to the farm owner or entity operating the farm and used exclusively in the transportation of agricultural or horticultural products, livestock, poultry and dairy products from the farm or orchard on which they are raised or produced to markets, processing plants, packing houses, canneries, railway shipping points and cold storage plants and in the transportation of agricultural or horticultural supplies and machinery to such farms or orchards to be used thereon.
- (n) "Farmer" includes owner, tenant, lessee, occupant or person in control of the premises used substantially for agricultural or horticultural pursuits, who is at least eighteen years of age with two years licensed driving experience.
- (o) "Farmer vehicle driver" means the person employed and designated by the farmer to drive a farm vehicle as long as driving is not his sole or principal function on the farm, who is at least eighteen years of age with two years licensed driving experience.
- (p) "Motor vehicle" means every vehicle which is self-propelled, and every vehicle which is propelled by electric power obtained from overhead trolley wires but not operated upon rails.
- (q) "Out-of-service order" means a temporary prohibition against driving a commercial motor vehicle as a result of a determination by a federal agency or the Public Service Commission, pursuant to West Virginia Code Chapter 24A, that:
 - (1) The continued use of a commercial motor vehicle may result in death, serious injury or severe personal injury; or
 - (2) The continued actions by the driver of a commercial motor vehicle poses an imminent hazard to public safety.
- (r) "Violation of an out-of-service order" means:
 - (1) The operation of a commercial motor vehicle during the period the driver was placed out of service; or
 - (2) The operation of a commercial motor vehicle by a driver after the vehicle was placed out of service and before the required repairs are made.
(WVaC 17E-1-3)

353.02 LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF DRIVER'S LICENSES.

No person who drives a commercial motor vehicle shall have more than one driver license at one time except during the ten-day period beginning on the date the person is issued a driver's license.
(WVaC 17E-1-4)

353.03 EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITIES.

(a) Each employer shall require the applicant to provide the information specified in West Virginia Code 17E-1-5.

(b) No employer shall knowingly allow, permit or authorize a driver to drive a commercial motor vehicle during any period:

- (1) In which the driver has a driver's license suspended, revoked or canceled by a state; has lost the privilege to drive a commercial motor vehicle in a state, or has been disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle; or
- (2) In which the driver has more than one driver's license at one time except during the ten-day period beginning on the date the employee is issued a driver's license.
(WVaC 17E-1-6)

353.04 COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE REQUIRED.

(a) Except when driving under a commercial driver's instruction permit accompanied by the holder of a commercial driver's license valid for the vehicle being driven, no person shall drive a commercial motor vehicle unless the person holds a commercial driver's license and applicable endorsements valid for the vehicle they are driving.

(b) No person shall drive a commercial motor vehicle while their driving privilege is suspended, revoked, canceled, expired, subject to a disqualification, or in violation of an out-of-service order.

(c) Drivers of a commercial motor vehicle must have a commercial driver's license in their possession at all times while driving.
(WVaC 17E-1-7)

353.05 EXEMPTIONS.

(a) Farmers. Bona fide farmers or farm vehicle drivers, as defined, operating a vehicle otherwise covered by the commercial driver's license requirements may be exempted from the provisions of this article only if the vehicle used is:

- (1) Driven by a farmer or farm vehicle driver;
- (2) Used only to transport either agricultural products, farm machinery, farm supplies, to or from a farm;
- (3) Not used in the operation of a common or contract motor carrier; and
- (4) Used within 150 miles of the qualifying farm.

Farmers who wish to be exempted from the commercial driver's license requirements must apply to the Division of Motor Vehicles for a certificate of exemption.

(b) Military Personnel. Military personnel, including the national guard and reserve, will be exempt from the provision of this article, only:

- (1) When in uniform; and
- (2) Operating equipment owned by the United States Department of Defense, except during declared emergencies or disaster situations; and
- (3) On duty; and
- (4) In possession of a valid classified military driver's license for the class of vehicle being driven.

(c) Fire Fighting and Rescue Equipment. Operators of vehicles authorized to hold an authorized emergency vehicle permit for use of red signal lights only are exempt from the provisions of this article while the authorized emergency vehicle permit is in force. Vehicles in this class include, but are not limited to, fire fighters and rescue equipment:

- (1) Owned and operated by state, county and municipal fire departments.
- (2) Owned and operated by state, county and municipal civil defense organizations.
- (3) Owned and operated by a manufacturer engaged in a type of business that requires fire fighter equipment to protect the safety of their plants and its employees.
- (4) Owned and operated by volunteer fire departments.

(d) Operators of Off-Road Construction and Mining Equipment. Operators of equipment which, by its design, appearance and function, is not intended for use on a public road, including, without limitation, motorscrapers, backhoes, motorgraders, compactors, excavators, tractors, trenches and bulldozers, will be exempt from the provisions of this article: Provided, that the exemption recognized by this subsection shall not be construed to permit the operation of such equipment on any public road except such operation as may be required for a crossing of such road: Provided, however, that no such equipment may be operated on a public road for a distance exceeding five hundred feet from the place where such equipment entered upon the public road.

(e) Exempt Vehicles. The Commercial Motor Vehicles Safety Act of 1986 exempts vehicles used exclusively for personal use such as recreation vehicles and rental trucks used only to transport the driver's personal or household property.
(WVaC 17E-1-8)

353.06 DRIVERS PROHIBITED FROM OPERATING WITH ANY ALCOHOL IN SYSTEM.

(a) In addition to any other penalties provided by the West Virginia Code or these Codified Ordinances, any person who drives, operates or is in physical control of a commercial motor vehicle while having an alcohol concentration in his or her blood, breath or urine of four hundredths of one percent or more, by weight, shall be imprisoned for not less than twenty-four hours nor more than thirty days, and shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00). A person convicted of a second or any subsequent offense under the provisions of this subsection shall be imprisoned for a period of thirty days, and the court may, in its discretion, impose a fine of not less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) nor more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000).

(b) A person who violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall be treated in the same manner set forth in West Virginia Code 17C-19-3, as if he or she had been arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or of any controlled substance.

(c) In addition to any other penalties provided by the West Virginia Code or these Codified Ordinances, a person who drives, operates or is in physical control of a commercial motor vehicle having any measurable alcohol in such person's system or who refuses to take a preliminary breath test to determine such person's blood alcohol content as provided by West Virginia Code 17E-1-15 must be placed out of service for twenty-four hours by the arresting law-enforcement officer. (WVaC 17E-1-14)

353.99 PENALTY.

Unless another penalty is provided in this article, whoever violates any provision of this article shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000). For the second violation of Section 353.04, the offender shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) nor more than two thousand dollars (\$2,000). For the third or any subsequent conviction for violation of Section 353.04, the offender shall be fined not less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) nor more than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500).