



**Vehicles
Used for
Snow Removal**



Québec 

Snow Removal Vehicle Categories and Licence Plates



Tool vehicle

A tool vehicle is a vehicle not mounted on a truck chassis that is designed to perform a task, with the workstation forming part of the cab. A truck chassis is a frame fitted with the mechanical components found on a vehicle made for the transportation of passengers, merchandise or equipment.

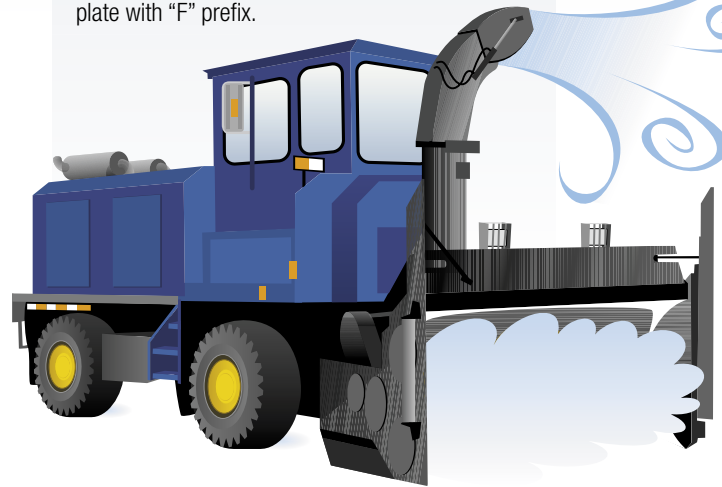
For example, loaders and graders are tool vehicles frequently used for snow removal.

Licensing:
plate with "F" prefix.

Snowblower

This is a vehicle fitted with a mechanical blower to remove snow.

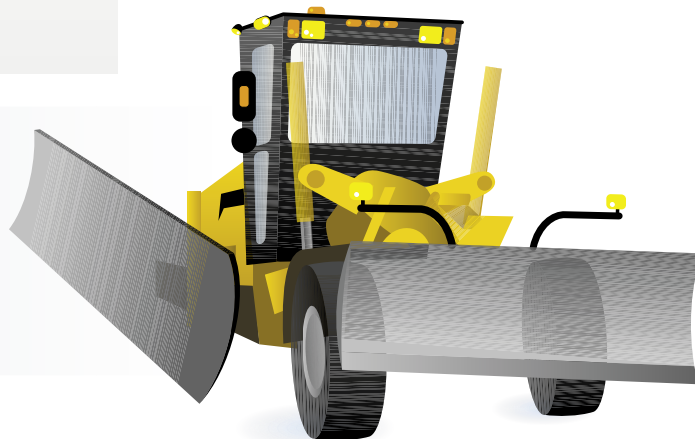
Licensing:
plate with "F" prefix.



Winter tool vehicle

Like tracked vehicles, winter tool vehicles fall into the preceding category, but are used only for snow removal.

Licensing:
plate with "F" prefix.



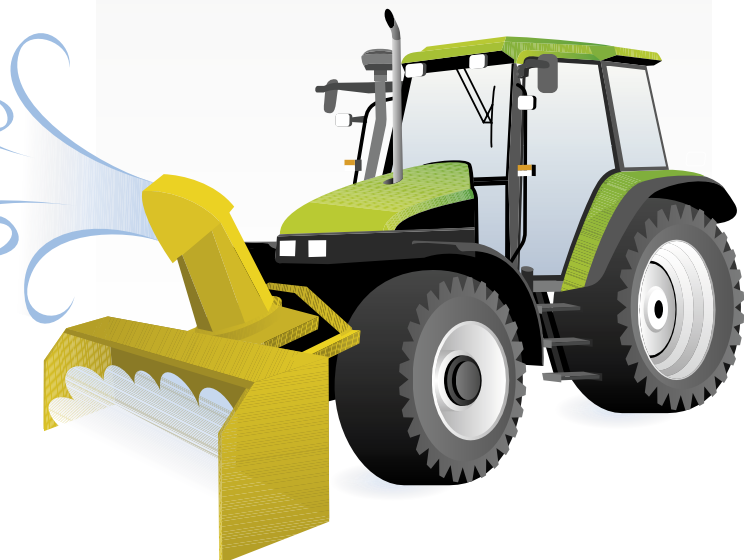
Farm tractor

This type of vehicle may be put to many uses, including snow removal, when owned by a farmer.

Licensing:

plate with “C” prefix, where a farm tractor is owned by a farmer or by someone other than a farmer who uses it solely for personal purposes.

Plate with “F” prefix, where a farm tractor owned by someone other than a farmer is used in snow removal for payment.





Truck

This type of vehicle with a net weight of more than 3,000 kg, may be used for snow removal.

Licensing:

plate with "L" prefix.

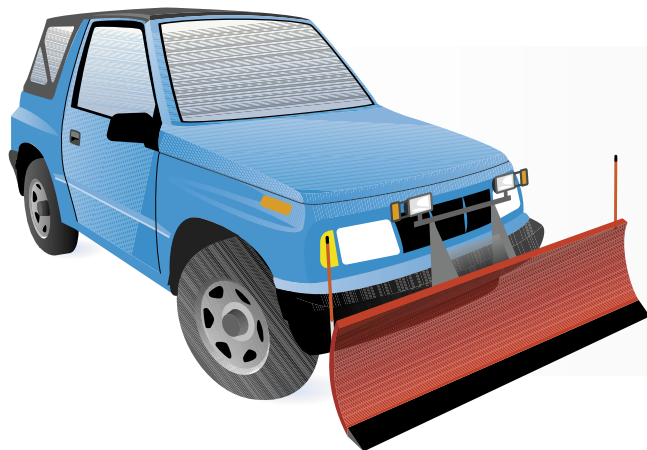
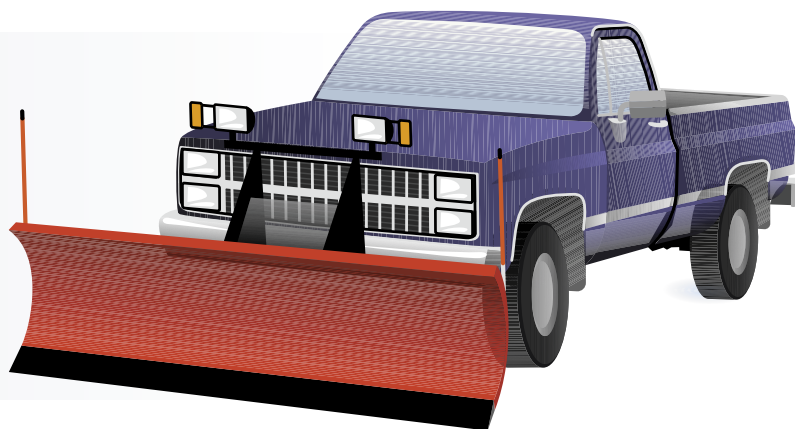
Plate with "F" prefix, where a truck is fitted with a snowplow in front and a counterweight at the rear.

Commercial vehicle

This is a motor vehicle other than a bus or minibus, with a net weight of 3,000 kg or less, where owned by a legal entity, a partnership or a natural person operating under a business name or using the vehicle mainly for commercial purposes. Such a vehicle may be used for snow removal.

Licensing:

plate with "F" prefix.



Passenger vehicle

A passenger vehicle is a motor vehicle owned by an individual, designed to carry up to nine occupants at a time and used mainly for personal purposes. Properly equipped, it may be used for snow removal.

Licensing:

passenger vehicle plate.

Obligation to register with the Commission des transports du Québec (CTQ)

Owners and operators of heavy vehicles must be entered on the CTQ registry to use or allow the operation of their vehicles on Québec roads open to public traffic.

This registration must be updated yearly.

To register with the CTQ, telephone:
Québec (city and vicinity): (418) 643-5694
Montréal: (514) 873-6424
From elsewhere in Québec: 1 888 462-2433
courrier@ctq.gouv.qc.ca

Mandatory mechanical inspection

Except for tool vehicles, winter tool vehicles, snowblowers and farm tractors, any vehicle whose net weight is above 3,000 kg must undergo a yearly mechanical inspection.

Size Limits

Maximum dimensions of a road vehicle, including the load and any equipment, are as follows:

- height: 4.15 metres;
- length: 12.5 metres;
- excess in front: 1 metre;
- excess in rear: 2 metres.

Once the load or equipment exceeds the vehicle length by one metre at the rear, a red flag or reflective panel must be added to the end, along with a red light for travel after dusk. A yellow light may be used instead of the red flag, panel or light.

- width: 2.6 metres, excluding rearview mirrors and turn-signal lights.

The width of equipment on vehicles used for snow removal on public roads may exceed 2.6 metres without the need for a special travel permit.

Vehicle used for snow removal from privately-owned areas

To travel public roads, the owner of a vehicle used for snow removal from privately-owned areas must get a special travel permit issued by the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec, where:

- the vehicle is over the size or weight limit, or is fitted with snow removal equipment wider than 2.6 metres;
- the vehicle is less than 2.6 metres wide, but its equipment exceeds the width of the vehicle or its accessories (for example, rearview mirrors, when required).

Special travel permit

Where a special travel permit is required, the original must be signed and kept in the driver's possession. A travel permit obliges its holder to:

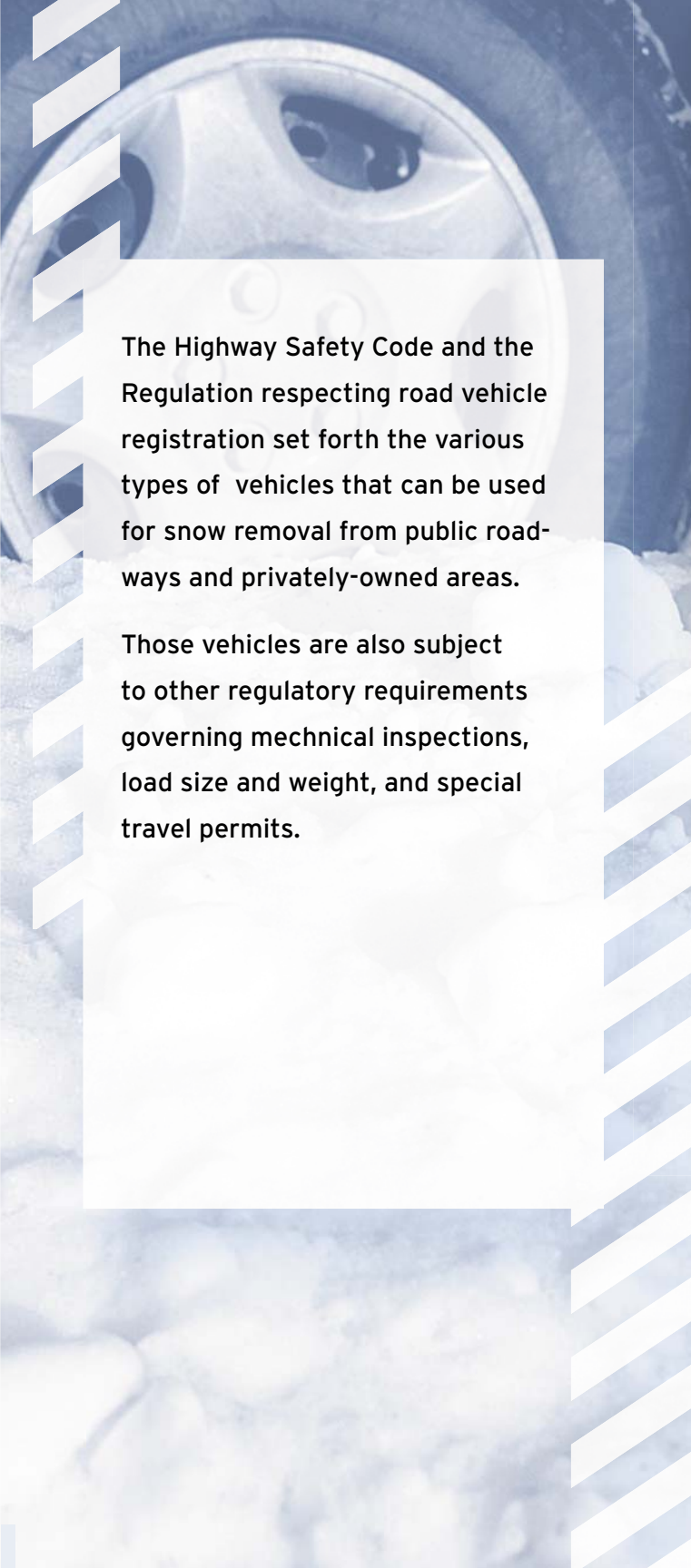
- equip the vehicle with a yellow light visible from at least 300 metres in all directions. If the vehicle is not visible from one direction, it must be fitted with an additional yellow light;
- have the yellow light on at all times;
- travel with the vehicle headlights on;
- fit the vehicle used for snow removal with "D" placards when its width exceeds 3.75 metres or vehicle equipment is more than 60 cm wider than the left side or 130 cm wider than the right side of the vehicle, excluding its accessories (for example, rearview mirrors, when required).

If the vehicle's width exceeds 3.75 metres, it must have an escort vehicle, in compliance with the Regulation respecting special travel permits.

A special travel permit allows its holder to clear snow on Sundays and holidays.

Flashing or rotating yellow lights

Vehicles used for snow removal from public roads and privately-owned areas may be fitted with flashing or rotating yellow lights, which may only be activated when clearing snow and required by the situation.



The Highway Safety Code and the Regulation respecting road vehicle registration set forth the various types of vehicles that can be used for snow removal from public roadways and privately-owned areas.

Those vehicles are also subject to other regulatory requirements governing mechanical inspections, load size and weight, and special travel permits.

For further information, telephone:

(514) 873-7620 in Montréal;

(418) 643-7620 in Québec (city and vicinity); or

1 800 361-7620, toll free, from elsewhere in Québec, Canada, USA.

www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca

The Highway Safety Code and regulations governing heavy vehicles are posted on the Internet at: www.publicationsduquebec.gouv.qc.ca, under the heading "Laws and Regulations".

This folder is not a text of law. For any reference of a legal nature, please consult the Highway Safety Code and attendant regulations.

Version française disponible sur demande.

**Société de l'assurance
automobile**

Québec

