

(2) If a disabled motor vehicle or disabled vehicle combination is carrying a perishable commodity, the vehicle may be towed directly by the safest and shortest practical route possible to the commodity's destination.

(f) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, a person may not engage in any emergency or secondary tow or any other tow of a motor vehicle or vehicle combination that exceeds any applicable statutory weight and size restrictions under Title 24 of this article unless the person has obtained the appropriate annual blanket permit under this subsection.

(2) The State Highway Administration and the State Police, jointly, shall adopt regulations to implement this section.

(3) The regulations adopted under this subsection shall specify criteria for:

(i) The issuance of appropriate annual blanket permits to those vehicles which are of adequate size to safely perform any towing allowed under this section;

(ii) The maximum weight, gross weight, axle weight, axle loads, or size of vehicles and vehicle combinations that may be towed under this section;

(iii) The minimum size and equipment required of a tow truck that tows vehicles or vehicle combinations under this section; and

(iv) An annual permit fee, not to exceed the lesser of \$50 or the actual cost of issuing permits under this subsection.

(4) The State Highway Administration shall issue an appropriate annual blanket permit to an eligible tow truck registered under this section that meets the requirements of regulations adopted under this subsection.

(g) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, while engaged in towing, a tow truck registered under this section is subject to:

(1) Weight restrictions imposed on restricted bridges; and

(2) All applicable statutory weight and size restrictions under Title 24 of this article while being operated within the limits of Baltimore City, unless the vehicle is being operated on an interstate highway.

(h) Except for tow trucks operated by dealers, automotive dismantlers and recyclers, and scrap processors displaying special registration plates issued under Title 13 of this article, the vehicle shall display a distinctive registration plate as authorized by the Administration.

(i) A person who registers a tow truck under this section shall obtain commercial liability insurance in the amount of at least \$100,000 per person, \$300,000 per occurrence bodily injury liability, and \$100,000 per occurrence property damage liability.