



Turfgrass Advocacy ²⁰⁰⁵

New York State Turfgrass Association • February 1, 2005

Background

Local enforcement agencies should be required to issue and honor the safety inspection decal of the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA). One of the goals of CVSA is to reduce fatalities, injuries, and incidents by improving safety compliance of commercial vehicle operations through reciprocal standards, practices, and enforcement throughout North America.

NYSTA Perspective

CVSA is an internationally-recognized organization that brings together the perspectives of enforcement agencies, commercial carriers, and environmental interest to obtain the best possible solutions to commercial vehicle transport concerns.

In New York, once a commercial vehicle passes an inspection performed by the State Police or Department of Transportation, a CVSA decal is affixed to the vehicle and remains valid for a period of three consecutive months, unless a noticeable defect merits reinspection. However, many local enforcement agencies, although having legal authority to inspect commercial vehicles, are not “certified” under CVSA, and therefore do not honor the decal. This has caused undue delay and hardship to drivers and vehicle owners who are repeatedly stopped for vehicle inspections, notwithstanding a valid CVSA decal visible on the vehicle. In some cases NYS DOT inspectors have not provided this sticker after a satisfactory inspection.”

NYSTA strongly supports the maintenance of effective commercial vehicle safety operational standards and practices. State and local law enforcement personnel should be required to follow the same inspection procedures and out-of-service criteria, in order to provide a basis for uniformity across New York State and reciprocity among CVSA’s member jurisdictions and industry partners.

Recommendation

- Support legislation that requires local law enforcement to honor the CVSA decal unless the vehicle has a noticeable defect and also require NYS DOT inspectors to issue the CVSA sticker after a satisfactory inspection.