



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

May 5, 2011
Shelbe Benson-Fuller
CBP Public Affairs
207-532-6521

News Release

CBP Offers Tips to Cross-Border Travelers

ST. ALBANS, Vt. — U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers and agriculture specialists throughout Vermont and New Hampshire are providing guidance to assist cross-border travelers who intend to travel between the U.S. and Canada. The tips are designed to ease the crossing process for travelers as CBP officers and agriculture specialists maintain their principal anti-terror mission.

Please know that CBP officers and agriculture specialists in the St. Albans area of operations are here to assist you with your cross-border travels. These officers are a part of America's first line of defense and you can have peace of mind knowing these men and women are serving to protect our northern border 24/7.

CBP officers and agriculture specialists will treat each person who enters through a port of entry equally throughout each step of the inspection process. Be cognizant that while each officer is upholding the law and fulfilling their daily duties in protecting America, each traveler also serves a very important role in the process.

In an effort to provide the best possible service to the traveling public, CBP officials are proactively reminding members of the traveling public that there are a number of steps they can employ to cross the border as quickly and safely as possible while avoiding violations of U.S. law. To assist travelers in their role and expedite travelers at the border, CBP has provided some basic border travel tips. For more information, please visit the "Know Before You Go" website. (<http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/travel/vacation/kbyg/>)

Tip 1 - Travelers should prepare for the inspection process before arriving at the inspection booth. Please have crossing documents available for the inspection including a WHTI approved document for U.S. citizens. For more information, please visit the "Get You Home" website. (<http://www.getyouhome.gov>)

Tip 2 - Vehicle occupants should not use cell phones while approaching the port or during the inspection process. Cell phone usage slows down the inspection process and causes delays for everyone in line.

Tip 3 - Alcohol/Tobacco/Firearms. In addition to federal laws, travelers entering the U.S. at ports of entry are also subject to all state alcohol/tobacco/firearm laws. Often times, state laws can be more restrictive than federal laws. If transporting any of these items, please check with local law enforcement to see if any restrictions apply.

Tip 4 - Travelers should build extra time into their trips in the event they cross during periods of exceptionally heavy traffic.

Tip 5 - Alternate Routes. During periods of heavy travel, border crossers may wish to consider alternative entry routes. For example, they may want to use the nearby and less heavily traveled Beecher Falls instead of the Derby Line port. For more information on border crossing times, which are updated hourly, please visit the CBP "Border Wait Times" website. (<http://apps.cbp.gov/bwt/>)

Tip 6 - Currency. There is no limit on total amount of monetary instruments that may be brought in or taken out of the U.S. However, if you are transporting more than \$10,000 you must file a Report of International Transportation of International Currency or Monetary Instruments (FinCen 105 – this form is available at the port of entry). Failure to properly declare or report the importation or exportation of currency or monetary instruments in excess of \$10,000 could result in seizure.

Tip 7 - Food items. Prepared foods for personal consumption or for family/friend gatherings is allowed. If bringing food items for resale or for commercial use, go to www.fda.gov or contact your local CBP office for more information. However, if you plan to cross the border with fresh meats, fruits, and vegetables and you are not sure if they are allowed into the United States, please check with your local CBP office before arrival.

Tip 8 - Goods and gifts. When crossing the border, all travelers and vehicles are subject to search. Please keep this in mind when transporting gifts for special occasions. Remember to “declare everything purchased or acquired outside of the United States.” If duty is applicable, credit cards or cash payment in U.S. currency is acceptable.

Tip 9 - Medicine/Narcotics. Travelers must declare medications at the border. All valid non-expired prescription medications should be in the original prescription containers with all pertinent information listed on the outside. Narcotics and dangerous drugs are prohibited entry. There are severe civil and/or criminal penalties if imported.

Tip 10 - Pets. Cats and dogs must be free of disease and illness when entering the U.S. In addition, dog owners must be able to show proof of rabies vaccination. If crossing with a puppy, certain paperwork will need to be completed at the border for the “new addition to the family.”

The border travel tips will be of assistance in averting any potential frustrations when crossing the border during your travels. If you have questions, you may also contact Mary Roussel, port director, Derby Line at (802) 873-3316 or Kevin Coy, port director, Highgate Springs at (802) 868-2278.

For more information on traveling to or from the U.S. or locating a CBP office, please visit the CBP website. (<http://www.cbp.gov/>)

Port Name	Address	Hours of Operation
		Passenger Vehicles
Highgate Springs	480 Welcome Center Road Swanton, VT 05488	24x7
Burlington Airport	228 Aviaton Ave Suite 100 South Burlington, VT 05403	0800-2100

Alburgh	200 Line Road Alburgh, VT 05440	24x7
Alburgh Springs	303 Alburgh Springs Rd Alburgh Springs, VT 05440	0800-2400
Morses Line	4475 Morses Line Road Franklin, VT 05457	0800-2400
Richford	705 Province Street Richford, VT 05476	24x7
East Richford	Route 105A 357 Glen Sutton Road Richford, VT 05476	24x7
Pinnacle	14 Pinnacle Road Richford, VT 05476	24x7
West Berkshire	7823 West Berkshire Enosburgh Falls, VT 05450	24x7
Derby Line (I-91)	107 Interstate 91 South Derby Line, VT 05830	24x7
Derby Line (Rt 5)	Route 5 Derby Line, VT 05830	24x7
North Troy	743 VT Route 243 North Troy, VT 05859	24x7
Beebe Plain	3161 Beebe Road Beebe, VT 05823	24x7
Norton	115 Route 147 North Norton, VT 05907	24x7
Canaan	387 VT Route 141 Canaan, VT 05903	24x7
Beecher Falls	1429 VT Route 253 Beecher Falls, VT 05902	24x7
Pittsburg	6293 North Main Street Pittsburg, NH 03592	24x7

U.S. Customs and Border Protection is the unified border agency within the Department of Homeland Security charged with the management, control and protection of U.S. borders at and between official ports of entry. CBP is charged with keeping terrorists and terrorist weapons out of the country while enforcing hundreds of U.S. laws.