

Golf Cart Ordinance

INTENT:

The Village Board, following due consideration of the value to the public to provide recreational opportunities, and considering the benefits offset by the potential liabilities including terrain involved, traffic density, and the history of automobile traffic, hereby intends to create routes for the operation of golf carts and regulate the operation of golf carts as provided herein.

AUTHORITY:

This chapter and the routes created herein are adopted pursuant to the police powers of the Village, together with the authority under section 349.18, Wisconsin statutes.

DEFINITIONS:

As used in this chapter, the following terms will have the following meanings:

GOLF CART: A small motor vehicle designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes and that is not capable of exceeding speeds of twenty five (25) miles per hour. Golf cart does not include an all-terrain vehicle (ATV).

VILLAGE: The Village of Francis Creek, Wisconsin.

VILLAGE BOARD: The board of trustees of the Village of Francis Creek, Wisconsin.

RULES OF OPERATION, CONDITIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS:

The following rules of operation, conditions, and restrictions apply to the operation of golf carts in the Village of Francis Creek:

- A. **Speed:** No person shall operate a golf cart within the Village on any trail or street or route designated herein at a speed in excess of the posted limit.
- B. **Right Side Operation:** A golf cart shall be operated on the extreme right side of the roadway and travel with the flow of traffic and shall be operated in single file.
- C. **Yield:** Golf cart operators shall yield the right of way to all other vehicular traffic and pedestrians.
- D. **Equipment:** No golf cart shall be operated on any street or route within the Village unless it conforms to all noise, registration, and other equipment requirements as required by Wisconsin statutes, administrative code, or this code.
- E. **Lights:** A golf cart operating within the Village shall display a lighted headlight and taillight at all times. Said lights shall conform to the requirements of Wisconsin statutes and this code, including the following:
 1. **Headlights** shall be of a white or clear light and must be capable of illuminating the road ahead during hours of darkness and be observed at a distance of five hundred feet (500'). Headlights must be properly adjusted, as not to interfere with the operation of other vehicles on the roadway.
 2. **Taillights** shall be red in color and be observable to a distance of five hundred feet (500') at night.

F. Slow Moving Vehicle: Any golf cart unable to reach a speed of twenty five (25) miles per hour shall display a slow moving vehicle triangle visible on the rear of such vehicle according to Wisconsin statutes and administrative code governing SMV emblems at all times while in operation on any roadway.

G. Operation On Sidewalks Prohibited: No person shall operate a golf cart on any sidewalk, pedestrian way, or upon the area between the sidewalk and the curb line of any street in the Village, except as specifically authorized for the purpose of legally crossing the street, from an area of private property with permission, to obtain immediate access to an authorized area of operation.

H. Commercial Access: Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, any person may operate a golf cart from an established golf cart route to a place of lodging, stores, or restaurants or other commercial buildings within the Village of Francis Creek.

I. Unattended Vehicles: No person shall leave or allow any golf cart owned or operated or under his/her control to remain unattended on any public highway or public property within the Village while the motor is running or with the starting key left in the ignition.

USE PERMIT:

A. Use Permit Required: In addition to any other registration requirements of the State of Wisconsin, no person shall operate any golf cart upon Village streets, other Village property, or designated areas within the Village limits without first obtaining a Municipal use permit.

B. Use Permit Requirements: The requirements for the use permit include the following:

1. The use permit shall include one golf cart unit. The owner of the golf cart shall provide proof of ownership and insurance covering the unit to be registered.

2. The owner of the golf cart shall complete and sign an application form as provided by the Village for the use permit.

3. The application form shall be accompanied by the required fee. The application fee is nonrefundable. The purpose of the fee is in part in payment for the inspection of the golf cart and the administrative expense.

4. The golf cart shall meet all inspection requirements prior to the issuance of any permit.

5. The permit inspection requirements shall be available from TA Motorsports

C. Use Permit Issuance: A use permit is nontransferable. Such permit shall allow the golf cart to be operated upon Village streets and designated routes. Each permit shall be plainly visible on the front cowling of the golf cart. The use permit is valid from date of issuance and shall expire December 31 two years after issuance year. The use permit fee can be found on the Village fee schedule and shall be amended as necessary by the Village Board.

OPERATOR RESTRICTIONS:

The following restrictions shall apply to all operators of golf carts within the Village:

A. Operating License: A person shall hold a valid operator's license to operate a golf cart. No person whose operating license is under suspension, revocation, or cancellation may operate a golf cart.

B. Exemption: A golf cart shall be exempt from the registration requirement if the operator meets the definition of a person with a disability as described in Wisconsin Statutes section 340.01(43g).

DESIGNATED GOLF CART ROUTES:

A. Routes And Trails: The following are designated routes and trails for golf cart use within the Village:

All public streets except:

- Any street where operation is prohibited by a posted sign.

B. Other Areas Prohibited: Except as provided in Wisconsin Statutes or in this chapter, no person shall operate any golf cart upon any public right-of-way, street, or highway, nature trail, or in any public park or cemetery or on any other public or private property in the Village except upon designated golf cart routes and trails.

C. Exception For Crossing: Notwithstanding the foregoing, a golf cart may be operated to cross from one side of a prohibited street to the other from a legal area to reach a street which is legal upon which to operate.

D. Golf Cart Routes, Signs, And Markers:

1. Markers: The Village Board or its designee are authorized and directed to procure, erect, and maintain appropriate golf cart routes, trails, and speed limit signs and markers as approved by the State of Wisconsin to comply with the terms of this chapter.

2. Status: The Village Board shall have the authority to declare the stated golf cart routes and trails either opened or closed.

3. Signs and Markers: No person shall fail to obey any route or trail sign, marker, or speed limit or other control device erected in accordance with this chapter or under the authority of Wisconsin Statutes.

ENFORCEMENT:

A. Enforcement: This chapter shall be enforced by any law enforcement officer of the Village of Francis Creek or such other local, County, or State law enforcement officers.

B. Citation: The uniform traffic citation under Wisconsin Statutes shall be used for violations of this chapter.

C. Penalty: The penalty for violation of any provision of this chapter shall be a forfeiture not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00), together with the costs of prosecution.