

CHAPTER 2

GOLF CARTS

SECTION:

9-2-1: Definitions

9-2-2: Operations On Streets

9-2-3: Registration Of Golf Carts, Neighborhood Vehicles And Utility Task Vehicles

9-2-4: Operation On Certain Streets And Roads Prohibited

9-2-5: Obedience To Vehicle Code

9-2-6: Penalties

9-2-1: DEFINITIONS:

COUNTY ROADS:	Include any roads outside the boundaries of the Village limits.
GOLF CART:	A vehicle specifically designed and intended for the purposes of transporting one or more persons and their golf clubs or maintenance equipment while engaged in the playing of golf, supervising the play of golf, or maintaining the condition of the grounds on a public or private golf course. (625 ILCS 5/1-123.9)
NEIGHBORHOOD VEHICLE:	A self-propelled, electronically powered four (4) wheeled vehicle; or a self-propelled, gasoline powered, four (4) wheeled vehicle with an engine displacement under one thousand two hundred (1,200) cubic centimeters; which is capable of attaining in one (1) mile a speed of more than twenty (20) miles per hour, but not more than twenty-five (25) miles per hour, and which conforms to federal regulations under title 49 CFR part 571.500.
UTILITY TASK (SIDE BY SIDE) VEHICLE (UTV):	A self-propelled, electronically powered four (4) wheeled vehicle; or a self-propelled, gasoline powered four (4) wheeled motor vehicle with bench or bucket seats, an engine displacement under one thousand two hundred (1,200) cubic centimeters which is capable of attaining in one (1) mile a speed of more than twenty (20) miles per hour, but not more than fifty (50) miles per hour, which is steered and maneuvered with a steering wheel.
VILLAGE STREETS:	Any of the streets within the boundaries of the Village of St. Joseph, Illinois (hereinafter "Village") except for interstates, State and County roads. (Ord. 2018-11, 11-13-2018; amd. Ord. 2022-15, 10-25-2022)

9-2-2: OPERATIONS ON STREETS:

(A) It shall be unlawful to operate an all-terrain vehicle as defined by 625 ILCS 5/1-101.8.

(B) It shall be lawful for a qualified person to operate a Golf Cart, Neighborhood Vehicle and Utility Task Vehicle (UTV) on designated streets within the Village, subject to the provisions of this Article.

(C) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a Golf Cart, Neighborhood Vehicle and Utility Task Vehicle (UTV) on any street in the Village, unless:

1. The driver is at least sixteen (16) years of age and has a valid driver's license; and
2. The vehicle is properly titled with the Illinois Secretary of State, if required; and
3. Has the minimum required liability insurance as set out in 65 ILCS 5/7-601 et seq., and maintains proof of said insurance specifically for the Golf Cart, Neighborhood Vehicle and Utility Task Vehicle (UTV) to be operated on Village streets within the permitted vehicle; and
4. Has been properly registered with the Village and must display such registration as required in this chapter; and
5. Has the following required, operable equipment:
 - (a) Brakes.
 - (b) Steering wheel apparatus.

- (c) Tires.
- (d) A driver's side outside mirror and either an interior rearview mirror or a passenger side outside mirror.
- (e) Red reflector warning devices in the front and rear.
- (f) A slow moving emblem on the rear of the vehicle.
- (g) A headlight that emits a white light visible from a distance of five hundred feet (500') to the front, illuminated at all times when operated on Village streets.
- (h) A tail lamp that emits a red light visible from at least one hundred feet (100') from the rear, illuminated at all times when operated on Village streets.
- (i) At least two (2) brake lights which emit a red light visible from a distance of one hundred feet (100') from the rear.
- (j) Turn signals mounted to the front and rear of the vehicle.
- (k) Windshield.
- (l) Horn which is audible from a distance of two hundred feet (200').

(D) All persons eligible to operate a Golf Cart, Neighborhood Vehicle and Utility Task Vehicle on designated streets of the Village must comply with the following requirements:

1. Must not exceed the lower of the posted speed limit or twenty-five (25) miles per hour.
2. Shall only be operated from five o'clock (5:00) A.M. until ten o'clock (10:00) P.M. (Central).
3. Shall not be operated in inclement weather, nor when visibility is impaired by weather, smoke, fog or other conditions, or at any time when there is insufficient light to clearly see persons and vehicles on the roadway at a distance of five hundred feet (500').
4. Each driver and passenger of a Golf Cart, Neighborhood Vehicle and Utility Task Vehicle shall wear a properly fastened and adjusted seat safety belt. Children must be secured in a child restraint system as required pursuant to the child passenger protection act.
5. A person who drives or is in actual physical control of a Golf Cart, Neighborhood Vehicle and Utility Task Vehicle on a roadway while under the influence of alcohol or drugs is subject to 625 ILCS 11- 500 through 11-502. (Ord. 2022-15, 10-25-2022)

9-2-3: REGISTRATION OF GOLF CARTS, NEIGHBORHOOD VEHICLES AND UTILITY TASK VEHICLES:

(A) Permit. A permit shall be issued within seven (7) days upon the approval of an application from an owner of a Golf Cart, Neighborhood Vehicle and Utility Task Vehicle to operate a Golf Cart, Neighborhood Vehicle and Utility Task Vehicle upon the streets and roadways within the jurisdiction of the Village, except where expressly prohibited.

(B) Application. Any person requesting a permit shall submit to the Village Administrator or his/her designee on a form supplied by the Village which shall contain, at a minimum, the following:

1. An application which contains the owner's name, address, phone number, driver's license number, vehicle identification number (VIN), make and model of vehicle.
2. Proof of valid insurance information, which meets the requirements of 625 ILCS 5/7-601 et seq., specifically for the Golf Cart, Neighborhood Vehicle and Utility Task Vehicle to be operated on Village streets.
3. Signed and notarized waiver of liability by applicant releasing the Village from any and all future claims resulting from the operation of their Golf Cart, Neighborhood Vehicle and Utility Task Vehicle pursuant to this Chapter or any other ordinance of the Village.
4. Present the vehicle for physical inspection to ensure that the vehicle is safe to operate on Village streets and is in compliance with the requirements of this Article. A Golf Cart, Neighborhood Vehicle and Utility Task Vehicle will be allowed to be driven to the Village Hall to have the vehicle inspected and permitted, if the requester has called ahead and arranged with the Village Administrator (or designee) a specific meeting time.

(C) Fee. An annual registration effective May 1st through April 30th each year and permit fee of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) for applicants age sixty-five (65) or older and Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) per year for all other applicants shall be submitted at the time of the application for the permit, and subject to renewal thereafter.

(D) Permit Renewal. A permit shall be valid for the period of one (1) year from May 1st though April 30th the following calendar year may be renewed upon application of the owner, in compliance with paragraph (B) of this Section.

(E) Transferability. A permit is nontransferable.

(F) Change of Contact Information. It shall be the duty of the permit holder to inform the Police Department of any change of address, phone number, or insurance coverage, within ten (10) business days of such change.

(G) Denial of Permit. A permit shall be denied only for the following reasons:

1. The vehicle is not properly titled with the Illinois Secretary of State, if required,
2. The insurance information for the vehicle cannot be verified,
3. The registered owner does not have a valid driver's license,
4. The owner has provided any false information in their application,
5. The vehicle does not conform to the requirements of this Article.
6. The vehicle is otherwise precluded from public roadways by applicable law.

(H) False Information. It shall be unlawful for anyone to provide false information in the application for a permit to operate a Golf Cart, Utility Task Vehicle (UTV) and/or Neighborhood Vehicle. (Ord. 2022-15, 10-25-2022)

9-2-4: OPERATION ON CERTAIN STREETS AND ROADS PROHIBITED:

Golf Carts may not be operated on sidewalks, Village parks or other Village property other than parking areas, and streets as provided herein.

(A) Golf Carts may be operated on Village streets, except as provided herein, which have a posted speed limit of thirty five (35) miles per hour or less, but Golf Carts are not authorized to exceed a speed of twenty five (25) miles per hour. Persons driving a Golf Cart are to pull over to the right side of the road and stop, yielding the right-of-way to approaching traffic from behind.

(B) Golf Carts, Utility Task Vehicles (UTV) and/or Neighborhood Vehicles are not authorized to be operated on the following national, State or County highways or Village streets except to cross said highways/streets at intersections with another public street authorized herein, in a path approximately ninety degrees (90°) to said highways/streets, after said Golf Cart comes to a complete stop, yielding the right-of-way to all pedestrian and vehicular traffic which constitutes a hazard, as provided herein:

1. Interstate 74.
2. State Route 150 (Warren Street) - except to cross at 2nd Street or 5th Street.
3. Main Street - north of Douglas Street - except to cross at Lincoln Street or Old Grand Ave.
4. Sherman Street - between Main Street and Elm Street.
5. Sportsman Club Road - except to cross at Grand Ave.
6. Elm Street - south of Sherman Street - except to cross at James Street/Douglas Street. (Ord. 2022-15, 10-25-2022)

9-2-5: OBEDIENCE TO VEHICLE CODE:

(A) Every operator of a Golf Cart, Neighborhood Vehicle and Utility Task Vehicle shall obey all sections of 625 ILCS 5/1-100 et seq., the Illinois Vehicle code, and all provisions of this Article.

(B) The Village may suspend or revoke a permit granted hereunder upon a finding that the holder thereof has violated any of the provisions of this Article or if there is evidence that the permit holder cannot safely operate the motorized Golf Cart, Neighborhood Vehicle or Utility Task Vehicle on the designated roadways.

(C) Every person operating a Golf Cart, Neighborhood Vehicle or Utility Task Vehicle pursuant to a permit hereunder on designated Village streets has all the rights and duties applicable to a driver of any other vehicle pursuant to the state highway traffic laws and regulations except when those provisions cannot reasonably be applied to motorized Golf Carts, Neighborhood Vehicles or Utility Task Vehicle. (Ord. 2022-15, 10-25-2022)

9-2-6: PENALTIES:

(A) A violation of this Article shall be punishable by a fine of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) which, if paid at the Village Hall, within 30 days of issuance shall be discounted to Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00). Any violation tied to lack of permit shall have the relevant fine reduced by the amount of the registration fee paid if a permit has been secured after the issuance of the notice of violation.

(B) A second conviction for a violation of this Article within one (1) year of the date of a prior conviction shall result in suspension of permit, to be reinstated only by the President.

(C) Upon conviction of operating a Golf Cart, Neighborhood Vehicle or Utility Task Vehicle or on a state highway, other than crossing at the designated locations, shall result in a fine no less than Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00) and the suspension of permit for one (1) year. (Ord. 2022-15, 10-25-2022)