



Golf Cart Registration

Permit Fee: \$20

Office Use Only
Permit # _____
Date Issued _____

Name of Applicant (<i>print</i>):
Address of Applicant: STRATFORD, WI 54484
Mailing Address (if different):
Phone Number(s):

Golf Cart Make:	Model:	Color:
Golf Cart Serial #:	Insurance Company:	
Driver 1:	DOB: ___/___/___	DL #:
Driver 2:	DOB: ___/___/___	DL #:

List any additional drivers on back with same information.

Applicant hereby acknowledges all of the above information is accurate and complete. I hold the Village of Stratford harmless from any damages. I have reviewed, understand, and agree to comply with all provisions of Village Ordinance §495-38.

This is an annual license that must be renewed each year prior to golf cart use as allowed in the ordinance. Annual fee is \$20 and will not be prorated. **A copy of this approved registration must be carried while golf cart is in use.**

Owner Signature: _____ Date: _____

**** Bottom Section to be completed by Stratford Police Department ****

GOLF CART INSPECTION

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brakes in good working order | <input type="checkbox"/> Road tested, not capable of speeds greater than 20 MPH |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rear view mirror attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Orange slow moving sign |
| <input type="checkbox"/> One operating headlight | <input type="checkbox"/> Two 3 inch red reflectors attached to rear |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Two operating tail lights | <input type="checkbox"/> Two 3 inch yellow reflectors attached to front |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Proof of Insurance (<i>see below</i>)* | <input type="checkbox"/> Village ordinance acknowledged by applicant |

**\$10k property damage, \$25k injury or death of one person, \$50k injury or death of more than one person*

Officer Signature: _____

Clerk Signature: _____

Approved or Denied \$20 Fee - Cash or Ck# _____ Date: _____

VILLAGE OF STRATFORD, MARATHON COUNTY, WISCONSIN
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING GOLF CARTS ON VILLAGE STREETS WITHIN THE
VILLAGE OF STRATFORD AND REGULATING THE OPERATION OF SUCH VEHICLES

Chapter 495 Vehicles & Traffic

Article VII Operation and Regulation of the Use of Golf Carts

§495-38

Section I: Intent.

The Village of Stratford, Marathon County, Wisconsin adopts the following ordinance permitting golf carts to be operated upon Village roadways, pursuant to the authority granted the Village under § 349.18(1m), Wis. Stats.

Section II: Definitions.

For purposes of this chapter, these definitions shall also apply throughout this chapter.

GOLF CART

A vehicle designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes and that is not capable of exceeding 20 miles per hour.

Section III: Operation of golf carts allowed; exceptions.

A. Allowed. The operation of golf carts on the public streets within the Village in compliance with the provisions of this chapter shall be permitted; however, it shall be unlawful to operate any golf cart that is not properly registered with the Village or to operate any golf cart at any place or in any manner not authorized herein.

B. Exceptions. The operation of golf carts is not subject to the provisions of this chapter under the following circumstances:

- (1) The operation of golf carts at golf courses, private clubs or on private property, with the consent of the owner; or
- (2) The use of a golf cart in connection with a parade, a festival or other special event, provided the consent of the sponsor is obtained and provided such vehicle is only used during such event.

Section IV: License required.

No person who does not have a valid driver's license issued under or granted by the laws of Wisconsin or some other state may operate a golf cart on any public street within the Village. For purposes of this section, a learner's permit shall not be considered as a valid driver's license nor shall any license that has been revoked, temporary or otherwise, or suspended for any reason, be considered as a valid driver's license during the period of suspension or revocation.

Section V: Registration.

A. Required. No golf cart may be operated on any public street within the Village unless the golf cart has first been registered with the Stratford Police Department as required herein. The

registration shall be renewed thereafter in accordance with the provisions of this section. To evidence the registration, the owner shall be issued an annual permit which shall be displayed in a prominent, visible place on the rear fender of the golf cart or at such other place as may be approved by the Police Department. The permit may contain a registration number assigned for the particular golf cart and may contain an expiration date.

B. Registration fee. A registration fee in the amount as may be established and published in the Schedule of Fees adopted by the Village Board from time to time, as amended, shall be paid to the Village at the time the application for registration is filed with the Stratford Police Department or for any renewal of the application.

C. Application. The application for registration shall be made to the Stratford Police Chief, or to some other person designated, on forms provided by the Village. The application may, among other things, require the owner's name, street address, mailing address, a phone number, the make, model and identification or serial number of the golf cart, proof of insurance and such other information as may be reasonably required as well as a release or disclaimer of liability by the Village for accidents involving the registered golf cart.

D. Procedures. The Chief of Police may establish written procedures, consistent with this chapter, setting out the process and the procedure, including the form of the application, the checklist for items to be inspected and the type of sticker, plate or tag evidencing the issuance of the registration permit.

E. Inspection. Prior to issuing the initial registration permit, the golf cart shall be inspected at the owner's home or at the Stratford Police Department, to determine that:

- (1) The golf cart is equipped with a rear vision mirror and at least two red rear reflectors at least three inches in height and width;
- (2) The golf cart is equipped with a reflective "slow moving sign" or "flag" on the rear of the cart;
- (3) The brakes provided by the manufacturer of the golf cart are in proper working order;
- (4) The golf cart has all of the standard safety features provided by the manufacturer and has not been modified to exceed a speed of 20 miles per hour, nor otherwise modified in any way that creates a hazard; and
- (5) Headlight/taillights and trailer requirements. A person who operates a golf cart during hours of darkness or during daylight hours on any highway right-of-way is required to display a lighted headlamp and tail lamp on the vehicle, as follows:
 - (a) The headlamp is required to display a white light of sufficient illumination power to reveal any person, vehicle or substantial object at a distance of at least 200 feet ahead of the golf cart. The headlight shall be properly adjusted so as to not interfere with the operation of other vehicles on the roadway.
 - (b) Taillights shall be red in color and be observable during hours of darkness to a distance of 500 feet to the rear.
- (6) The golf cart is equipped with all mechanical systems and safety equipment required by this chapter.

F. Denial and revocation. The initial registration of a golf cart may be denied or subsequently revoked by the Stratford Police Department if it is determined that:

- (1) The application contains any material misrepresentation;
- (2) Financial responsibility requirements of the State of Wisconsin (liability insurance) have not been met;
- (3) The golf cart is not in compliance with the requirements set out above;
- (4) The golf cart has been altered or customized and no longer meets the definition of a golf cart;
- (5) Equipment supplied by the manufacturer, especially safety equipment, has been removed from the golf cart or the vehicle identification or serial number removed; or
- (6) Other good cause shown including repeated violations of this chapter.

G. Financial responsibility. The owner of a golf cart required to be registered with the Village for use on the public streets of the Village shall maintain in full force and effect and continuously throughout any period of registration.

H. Disqualified vehicles. ATVs, four-wheel utility vehicles and other similar utility vehicles which are not manufactured for operation on a golf course and golf carts which have been modified so that it no longer meets the definition of a golf cart may not be registered as a golf cart nor shall such vehicles be operated on the public roads within the Village unless such vehicles are otherwise registered with and allowed under the motor vehicle laws of the State of Wisconsin.

I. Noise limits. No person may manufacture, rent, sell or operate golf cart that is constructed in such a manner that noise emitted from the vehicle exceeds 75 decibels on the A scale as measured in the manner prescribed under rules promulgated by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Section VI: Manner of operation.

Golf carts shall not be operated on the public streets of the Village, except in full compliance with the provisions of this section.

A. Hours of operation. Operators may not operate a golf cart on a golf cart route at any time before or after Operating Hours. Operating Hours are designated as 5:00 AM through 10:00 PM.

B. Streets. Golf carts may not be operated on any of the following streets or sections of any street except for the sole purpose of crossing such street either at a signalized intersection or at a perpendicular crossing at a through intersection:

- (1) State Highway 97.
- (2) State Highway 153.

C. Motor vehicle laws. All laws regarding the use of motor vehicles in the State of Wisconsin and all ordinances regarding the use of motor vehicles in the Village, not inconsistent therewith,

shall be observed, except that no golf cart may be operated at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour.

(1) All golf cart operators shall observe a speed limit of 20 miles per hour (mph) on the designated and posted roadway/alley or the posted roadway/alley speed limit, whichever is lower. Lower speed limits may be designated on certain portions of roadway routes as deemed appropriate and indicated by signage. This speed limit shall also apply while operating on private property.

(2) Golf cart operators shall slow to 10 mph when within 150 feet of a residence or business, including when operating on private property held open to public golf cart use. This speed limitation does not apply to a person operating a golf cart on a roadway that is designated as a golf cart route.

(3) Golf cart operators shall slow to 10 mph, yield and exercise extreme caution on the frozen surface of public waters or on a golf cart trail when within 100 feet of another person not operating a motor vehicle, golf cart, all-terrain vehicle, utility terrain vehicle, or snowmobile. This restriction does not apply to operation of a golf cart when competing in a sanctioned derby or race.

(4) Golf cart operators shall not exceed a speed of 10 mph when within 100 feet of a fishing shanty.

(5) Golf cart operators shall not exceed a speed of 15 mph when the golf cart is being operated on a roadway or adjacent to a roadway with a snow removal device attached, if the golf cart is more than 150 feet from a dwelling.

D. Right-of-way. The operator of a golf cart shall yield the right-of-way to overtaking motor vehicles.

E. Village property and sidewalks. Golf carts shall not be operated on any sidewalk, pedestrian walkway, jogging path, greenway, park, trail except for official police business or by Village personnel while on Village business. Golf carts may not be operated on public property that is closed to golf cart operation or on which the operation of a golf cart is prohibited by law. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, golf carts shall not be operated on property owned or leased by the Village except with the express written consent of the Village Clerk and/or the Chief of Police and upon the terms and conditions as may be set forth in such written permission.

F. Private Property. Golf carts may not be operated on the private property of another without the consent of the owner or lessee. Failure to post private property does not imply consent for golf cart use.

G. Golf cart capacity. The seating capacity (normally no more than four passengers) shall not be exceeded nor shall the operator or any passenger be permitted to stand while the golf cart is in operation.

H. Commercial purposes. Golf carts may not be used as a taxicab or bus or for the commercial carrying of passengers or the hauling of freight.

I. Parking. Golf carts may only be parked in the same manner and at the same places designated for the parking of motor vehicles. The stopping, standing or parking of golf carts in areas where

parking is not allowed or in any place that impedes the flow of traffic, pedestrian walkways or a passageway is prohibited.

J. Towing. Golf carts may not be used for the purpose of towing another cart, trailer or vehicle of any kind including a person on roller skates, skateboard or bicycle.

K. Insurance. All operators shall have a liability insurance policy in force on any golf cart operated on a golf cart route. The liability insurance policy must have the following minimum coverages:

- (1) Ten thousand dollars for property damage.
- (2) Twenty-five thousand dollars for the injury or death of one person.
- (3) Fifty thousand dollars for the injury or death of more than one person.

L. Possession/consumption of open intoxicants prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person to possess an open intoxicant container/receptacle while operating, or as a passenger on, golf cart on any golf cart route within the Village of Stratford.

M. Restrictions on equipment. No golf cart may be operated within the Village of Stratford unless it complies with all noise, registration, and other equipment standards as established in the Wisconsin Statutes, Wisconsin Administrative Code, or the Village of Stratford Code of Ordinances.

N. Miscellaneous. No person may operate a golf cart:

- (1) In any careless way so as to endanger the person or property of another.
- (2) With any crossbow in his or her possession, unless the crossbow is not cocked or is unloaded and enclosed in a carrying case.
- (3) With any bow in his or her possession, unless the bow does not have an arrow nocked.
- (4) With any firearm in his or her possession, unless the firearm is unloaded or is a handgun, as defined in § 175.60(1)(bm), Wis. Stats. This limitation does not apply to a firearm that is placed or possessed on a golf cart that is stationary, as defined in § 167.31(1)(fg), Wis. Stats.
- (5) With a passenger riding in or on any part of a golf cart that is not designed or intended to be used by passengers.
- (6) Unless he or she, and every occupant of the golf cart, is seated on a seat that is original to the golf cart as manufactured.

O. Operations restrictions. Because the Village of Stratford Village Board designates all Village streets and alleys as official designated routes (except STH 153 and STH 97), golf carts operating on Village of Stratford streets, roads, and other public property shall comply with the following:

- (1) Golf carts shall be operated on the extreme right side of the roadway and travel with the flow of traffic.
- (2) Golf carts shall be operated in single-file, with headlights and taillights in operation at all times.

(3) Golf cart operators shall yield the right of way to all other vehicular traffic and pedestrians.

(4) No racing-type golf carts, golf cart conversions, or converted drive trains will be allowed on Village of Stratford streets, alleys or public ways.

P. Route Markers.

(1) Erection of trail markers. Village of Stratford Department of Public Works personnel are directed and authorized to procure, erect and maintain appropriate route, trail, and/or speed limit signs and markers as required by the Wisconsin Statutes.

(2) Trail status/closure. The Chief of Police, upon the recommendation of law enforcement or public works personnel, shall have the authority to declare designated golf cart routes and trails open or closed. Such closure and opening information shall be posted.

(3) Signs and markers to be obeyed. No person shall fail to obey any route or trail sign, marker or speed limit or other control device erected in accordance with this section or traffic sign or signal under authority of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Q. Storage restrictions. No more than three golf carts may be parked outside of a building or garage on a residential property for more than 24 hours.

R. Required notifications. The Village of Stratford shall submit a copy of this article upon adoption to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin State Patrol and the County Sheriff's Department of Marathon County, as required by law.

Section VII Disclaimer and liability.

A. Disclaimer. Golf carts are not designed for nor manufactured to be used on public streets and the Village neither advocates nor endorses the golf cart as a safe means of travel on public streets, roads and highways. The Village in no way shall be liable for accidents, injuries or death involving the operation of a golf cart.

B. Assumption of risk. Any person who owns, operates or rides upon a golf cart on a public street, road or highway within the Village does so at his or her own risk and peril and assumes all liability resulting from the operation of the golf cart.

Section IIX: Enforcement, violations and penalties.

A. Enforcement. This article shall be enforced by any law enforcement officer authorized to enforce the laws of the State of Wisconsin.

B. Penalties. Violation of this article shall be punishable by a forfeiture and enforced pursuant to Village of Stratford Ordinance Codes §§ 495-32 and 495-33.

Section IX: Severability.

If any section, clause, provision or portion of this ordinance or any underlying statute or administrative code section adopted by reference herein is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions shall not be affected.

Section X: Effective Date.

This ordinance becomes effective upon passage and publication.

Adopted this 14th day of June, 2022.