



**City of Santa Fe
Golf Cart Registration and
Golf Cart Re-Registration Form**

Vehicle Identification Number	Current Permit Number	Permit Number
		For Office Use Only

1. For Re-registration, if all information below is still current and correct, there is no need to complete.
2. If this is a NEW golf cart registration, please fill out completely.

Last Name of Owner	First Name	Middle Initial	Street Address	City	State

Telephone Number	Make of Golf Cart	Year of Manufacture / Model Name	Color
() -			

Cell Phone Number	Location where Cart is stored	License Plate #	ID Verified
() -			

1. Mail or Submit to: Santa Fe Police Department, 3650 FM 646 N, Santa Fe, Texas 77510
2. **Please present ID for verification.**
3. The Santa Fe Police Department in conjunction with the Citizens on Patrol will arrange to have your Golf Cart inspected prior to the issuance of a Registration Sticker.
4. Please read the ordinance on pages 2-6, and return page 7, signed, with your completed application.
5. For questions related to the Golf Cart Ordinance or application, please contact the Santa Fe Police Department at (409)925-2000.

CITY OF SANTA FE
GOLF CART ORDINANCE

Section 13: GOLF CARTS

A. Applicability

The provisions of this ordinance shall apply to golf carts operated upon a public street within the City of Santa Fe, Texas. Golf carts are not permitted on a public street where the posted speed limit exceeds 35 miles per hour, except to cross an intersection.

The operation of golf carts is not subject to the provisions of this section under the following circumstances:

the use and operation of golf carts at golf courses, private clubs, or on private property with the consent of the owner;

the use and operation of golf carts within gated or limited access communities unless the streets of the community are dedicated for public use and maintained by the City;

the use and operation of golf carts in connection with a parade, festival, or other special event provided the consent of the sponsor is obtained and provided such vehicle is only used during such event;

the use and operation of golf carts by the City of Santa Fe on official police business or the use of golf carts by City personnel for official business on City-owned or City-leased property.

B. Definitions

The following words, terms, and phrases, when used in this section, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Driver/Operator means the person driving and having physical control over the golf cart.

Driver's License means an authorization issued by the State for the operation of a motor vehicle.

Golf Cart shall have the meaning assigned by the Texas Transportation Code, Section 502.001, as amended, and means a motor vehicle commonly referred to as a golf cart and designed by the manufacturer primarily for transporting persons on a golf course. The vehicle must have an attainable top speed not greater than 25 miles per hour on a paved level surface and manufactured in compliance with those federal motor vehicle safety standards for low-speed vehicles. Specifically excluded from this definition are those motorized conveyances commonly referred to as ATVs, four-wheelers, mules, gators, and design-altered golf carts which have been altered to allow them to travel at a speed greater than 25 miles per hour.

Owner means the person holding title to the golf cart.

Parking Area means those areas accessible to the public by motor vehicular traffic and which are designated for temporary parking of motor vehicles, usually in places referred to as parking lots.

Sidewalk means the portion of a street that is between a curb or lateral line of a roadway and the adjacent property line and intended for pedestrian use.

Street means a public roadway of the City of Santa Fe, Texas, by whatever name (e.g., road, alley, avenue, highway, route, boulevard, etc.) that (a) has a posted speed limit of 35 miles per hour or less; or (b)

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provides for no more than two lanes of vehicular traffic per direction; or (c) is not designated by either the State or Federal highway system.

C. Operational Regulations

All drivers of golf carts shall hold a valid driver's license and shall abide by all traffic regulations applicable to vehicular traffic when using or operating a golf cart on the authorized streets and parking areas of the City. A golf cart may not be used in a reckless or negligent manner.

Proof of financial responsibility consistent with the minimum requirements of Texas Transportation Code §601.051, as amended for the operation of motor vehicles shall be required for operation of golf carts on public roadways.

Golf carts shall not be operated on any sidewalk, pedestrian walkway, jogging path, park trail, or any location normally used for pedestrian traffic except for official police business or City of Santa Fe personnel conducting a required job function directly related to their assigned duties.

All golf carts are entitled to full use of a lane on the authorized streets and parking areas and no motor vehicle shall be driven in such a manner as to deprive any golf cart of the full use of a lane.

The driver of a golf cart shall not overtake and pass in the same lane occupied by the vehicle being overtaken.

No driver shall operate a golf cart between lanes of traffic or between adjacent lines or rows of vehicles.

The driver of a golf cart with a current and valid Texas driver's license may not operate a cart on a street having a posted speed greater than 35 miles per hour, except the driver may cross a multi-lane or a federal, county, or state route only at an intersection controlled by an official traffic control device which stops traffic from all directions.

The number of occupants in a golf cart shall be limited to the number of persons for whom factory seating is installed and provided on the golf cart. The operator and all occupants shall be seated upon the seat of the golf cart and no part of the body of the operator or occupant shall extend outside the perimeter of the golf cart while the golf cart is being operated.

The operator of a golf cart shall ensure that children are properly seated while a cart is in motion and the operator shall not permit any occupant of the cart to ride in the lap of any occupant while the cart is in motion. No person younger than six (6) years of age may be transported in a golf cart unless restrained by a safety belt restraint.

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 is prohibited. Golf carts shall not park within any space designated for disabled persons unless a current disabled parking placard is displayed and the person to whom the placard was issued is operating or being transported by the cart.

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Golf carts may not be used for the purpose of towing another cart, trailer, or vehicle of any kind, and may not tow an object or person, including a person on roller skates, roller blades, skateboard, bicycle, or similar object.

Golf carts shall not be operated during inclement weather or when visibility is impaired by weather, smoke, fog, or other condition, or at any time when there is insufficient light to clearly see persons or vehicles on the roadway at a distance of five hundred (500) feet. This restriction does not apply to golf carts operated on private property.

D. Required Equipment

A golf cart must be equipped with the following minimum equipment, as mandated by Section 551.404(b), as amended, and as required by the City of Santa Fe, Texas:

Operational headlamps (white lights mounted on each side of the front of the cart);

Operational tail lamps (red lights mounted on each side of the rear of the cart);

Side reflectors (2 front – amber in color, and 2 rear – red in color);

Operational brakes (capable of stopping the cart within 50 feet at a speed of 25 miles per hour);

Operational parking brake (activated by the cart driver’s muscular effort or spring action, designed to operate continuously once applied, and capable of adequately holding the cart on any grade under all loading conditions);

Rearview mirror(s) (capable of a clear, unobstructed view of at least 200 feet to the rear);

Slow-Moving-Vehicle emblem (a triangular sign having a reflective surface designed to be clearly visible in daylight or at night from the light of standard headlamps at a distance of at least 500 feet, mounted base down on the rear of the vehicle at a height from three (3) feet to five (5) feet above the road surface, and maintained in a clean, reflective condition); and

Horn (must be audible for a distance of 200 feet).

All required equipment shall meet Texas and Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards and shall be maintained in good working condition.

E. Gasoline carts

1. Every motorized cart powered by gasoline shall at all times be equipped with an exhaust system in good working order and in constant operation and meeting the following specifications:

a. The exhaust system shall include the piping leading from the flange of the exhaust manifold to and including the muffler and exhaust pipes or including any and all parts specified by the manufacturer.

b. The exhaust system and its elements shall be securely fastened with brackets or hangers which are designed for the particular purpose of fastening motorized cart exhaust systems.

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c. The engine and powered mechanism of every motorized cart shall be so equipped, adjusted, and tuned so that the exhaust is in good working order.

d. It shall be unlawful for the owner of any motorized cart to operate or permit the operation of such cart on which any device controlling or abating atmospheric emissions which is placed on a cart by the manufacturer is rendered unserviceable by removal, alteration, or which interferes with its operation.

F. Permit required

1. No person shall operate, cause to be operated, or allow the operation of a golf cart on a public roadway unless a valid permit has been issued for that golf cart or otherwise allowed by law. A permit is not required for golf carts owned or leased by the golf course and used entirely on the golf course or crossing from one section of a golf course to another section of the same course. A permit is not required for a privately owned golf cart used entirely on the golf course or crossing from one section of a golf course to another section of the same course. No golf cart exempted from permitting under this section may be operated on a public roadway for any other purpose.

Application for a permit authorizing the operation of a golf cart shall be made by a person who owns, leases, or otherwise uses a golf cart. Such application shall be made in writing to the chief of police or his designee on a form designated for that purpose. On such application shall be set forth the following:

The application shall include the name, address, telephone number, and state driver's license number, if applicable, of the permit holder.

The application shall include a statement that the permit holder and any user shall indemnify and hold harmless the City of Santa Fe, Texas for any and all civil liabilities associated with said registration and waives any and all rights to sue or allow subrogation by insurance company.

The application shall include the street address where the golf cart is kept, including the particular suite or apartment number, if applicable.

The application shall include any business name used for the premises where the golf cart is kept.

The application shall include year, make, model, color, vehicle identification number or serial number if no V.I.N. has been issued to the golf cart, electric or gasoline.

The application shall include the signature of the Golf Cart Owner/Applicant, signifying the agreement to the terms and conditions of the permit.

The motorized cart shall be inspected by a person(s) and at a location designated by the chief of police to ensure compliance with requirements of this article before the issuance of a permit.

The permit shall be permanently affixed on the left side of the cart in such a manner that it is clearly visible from 50 feet. The permit must not be damaged, altered, obstructed, or otherwise made illegible. The permit holder shall apply for replacement permit and pay all applicable cost associated with the issuance and inspection of the cart.

The permit is not transferable and shall only be placed upon the cart for which it was issued.

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A permit issued to a motorized cart shall become invalid if the motorized cart is altered in any manner that fails to comply with any requirement of this section.

Permits/stickers are valid for a period of two years. The following fees shall apply:

Inspection by police department: \$50.00 (includes permit/sticker).

Re-inspection by police department: \$10.00 (if a cart fails the initial inspection).

The permit holder shall notify the Santa Fe Police Department within ten (10) working days if the motorized cart transfers ownership or the address of the normal storage location has changed. The information shall be submitted on a form designated by the chief of police.

Lost or stolen permit/stickers are the responsibility of the owner. A police report must be filed in the event of a lost or stolen permit/sticker. If no record can be found of a previous application, nor the receipt of a permit/sticker, the chief of police may direct the applicant to reapply and also remit any and all fees necessary before a replacement permit/sticker is issued.

Any person who operates a cart and fails to receive and properly display a City of Santa Fe permit/sticker will be in violation of this section in addition to all applicable state laws.

A permit may be revoked at any time by the chief of police or designee if there is evidence that the permit holder cannot safely operate a motorized golf cart on the roadway or streets within the City of Santa Fe or the motorized cart fails to comply with the requirements of this section. For purposes of this section, the commission of any of the violations described in Section C, Operational Regulations, constitutes evidence that the permit holder cannot safely operate a motorized golf cart on the streets within the City of Santa Fe.

G. Liability

Nothing in this section shall be construed as an assumption of liability by the City of Santa Fe, Texas, for any injuries to persons, pets, or property which may result from the use and operation of a golf cart by an authorized driver.

Owners are fully liable, responsible, and accountable for the actions of any individual that they provide permission to use, operate, and drive said golf cart, both on personal and/or city and public properties. This described liability responsibility especially applies to personal injuries and property damage resulting from golf cart drivers who are minors under the age of 21 with or without a current and valid Texas driver's license.

H. Penalties

Any person who violates any of the terms of this section shall be subject to the following penalties:

- a. traffic violations for which the owner and/or driver of the golf cart may be subject to pursuant to state law; and
- b. a misdemeanor offense punishable by a fine not exceeding one hundred (\$100) dollars for each day a violation continues to be an offense.”

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AGREEMENT

I have read the application and the Golf Cart Ordinance, and by signing, I agree to the terms and conditions of the application. I, the permit holder and any user shall indemnify and hold harmless the City of Santa Fe, Texas for any and all civil liabilities associated with said registration and waives any and all rights to sue or allow subrogation by insurance company.

Applicant