

183 MOTORIZED GOLF CARTS

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZED USE

Pursuant to the authority granted by Minnesota Statute 169.045, the use of motorized golf carts is permitted within the city limits only with a valid operator permit under the conditions set forth below. The provisions of Minnesota Statute 169.045 are incorporated herein by reference, except as specifically addressed or modified by this ordinance.

SECTION 2. GOLF CART OPERATOR PERMITS

A. Each person desiring to operate a golf cart within the city limits shall submit an application to Grand Meadow City Hall with an application fee. The city council shall have the right at any time to set a reasonable fee to cover the cost of issuing such permits.

B. Conditions for the issuance of a permit are as follows:

1. Each applicant shall show evidence of insurance which meets the requirements of Minnesota Statute 65B.48, subdivision 5, as it may be amended from time to time.

2. The Chief of Police or designated staff shall inspect each golf cart receiving a permit to ensure that each golf cart has a rear view mirror, a slow-moving vehicle sign (as required by Minnesota Statute 169.522) attached to the rear, an orange safety flag (approximately 7 inches by 12 inches) no less than 5 feet from the ground, and that it is in generally good working condition.

3. Standard mufflers which are properly attached to the golf cart and which reduce the noise of operation of the motor to the minimum necessary for operation are required. No person shall use a muffler cutout, by-pass, straight pipe, or similar device on a golf cart. The apparatus shall not be audible for a distance more than 500 feet from the place or places where such devices or apparatus will be located.

4. Brakes adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold the golf cart under any condition of operation are required.

5. The applicant must have a valid driver's license and be 18 years old or older.

6. A completed application and application fee must be submitted to City Hall. The application shall specify the name, address, telephone number, driver license number, birthdate, and insurance information for the applicant.

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C. If an applicant satisfies the above-described conditions, the city shall issue a permit. Permits will be valid for the calendar year in which they were issued. Permits will be issued throughout the year however permits will not be prorated for being purchased for less than twelve months.

D. A permit may be revoked at any time if there is evidence that the applicant or permittee cannot safely operate the motorized golf cart on the designated roadways. If evidence exists that an applicant or permittee cannot safely operate a golf cart, the city may require, as a condition to obtaining, keeping, or renewing a permit, that the applicant submit a certificate signed by a physician that the applicant is able to safely operate a motorized golf cart on the roadways designated.

SECTION 3. GOLF CART OPERATION WITHIN THE CITY OF GRAND MEADOW

A. A person who has been granted a permit shall affix the permit to the rear of the golf cart so that it is visible from the rear.

B. Golf carts shall only be operated on city owned streets and alleys located within the boundaries of the city. Golf carts use is not authorized within the city on pedestrian paths, on bike trails, on sidewalks, or in parks unless specifically permitted by the city or allowed under Section 4 of this ordinance.

C. Golf carts may not be operated during inclement weather or when visibility is impaired by weather, smoke, fog or other conditions or when there is insufficient light to clearly see persons and vehicles on the roadway at a distance of 500 feet.

D. Golf cart operators must obey all traffic laws which can be applied to motorized vehicles. Golf Carts may not travel at a speed in excess of 15 miles per hour.

- E. Golf carts may only be operated on designated roadways from sunrise to sunset.
- F. The number of occupants in a golf cart may not exceed the design occupancy load.
- G. Golf Carts not equipped with brake lights or turn signals must use appropriate hand signals as defined by Minnesota State Statute 169.19 Subdivision 8.

SECTION 3. PERMIT REQUIREMENTS AND FEE WAIVER FOR THOSE WITH DISABILITIES

- A. The general permit requirements as specified in Section 2 above must be met.
- B. Each application for a fee waiver due to disability shall be accompanied by either 1) a doctor's certificate dated not more than 60 days prior to the application date certifying that the individual has a condition or disability which could benefit from the use of a golf cart and the individual is capable of safely operating a golf cart or 2) proof of a current motor vehicle permit for a handicapped person.
- C. The holder of a permit issued under a fee waiver due to disability may operate the golf cart on pedestrian paths, on bike trails, on sidewalks, and in parks as necessary as a direct means of access to facilities or functions. Operation of a golf cart on pedestrian paths, on bike trails, on sidewalks, and in parks shall not be allowed for recreational type travel.
- D. No fee shall be charged to any applicant who meets the requirements of Sections 3A and 3B herein.

SECTION 4. CITY LIABILITY

The City of Grand Meadow assumes no liability for any injuries to persons or property which may result from the operation of a golf cart by a permit holder, or from the city's failure to revoke a permit.

SECTION 5. ENFORCEMENT

A. Issuance of Citations. The City of Grand Meadow may authorize any police officer or any other authorized representative of the law to issue a citation to any person, firm, or entity for any alleged violations of this ordinance and any other ordinance or statute which provides the basis for prosecution of violations of this ordinance.

Nothing within this ordinance shall be construed to limit the authority of police officers to enforce any provisions of this ordinance or related statutes or ordinances. The police officer, or other official of the City, is authorized to issue a citation to any person, firm, or entity for any alleged violation of this ordinance as often as each day the violation persists.

B. Revoking Permits. The City of Grand Meadow may revoke a permit at any time if it is shown that the permit holder or operator:

1. cannot safely operate the golf cart on the designated roadway, or
2. has had a driver's license revoked or suspended and is currently under revocation or suspension, or
3. cannot provide proof of current insurance coverage,
4. has had repeat offenses while driving a golf cart, or
5. has knowingly or negligently allowed non-permit holders to operate a golf cart affixed with the permit holder's permit.

C. Penalties. Unless otherwise specified, violations of this ordinance are declared to be misdemeanor offenses and are punishable by fine of up to \$1,000 and/or ninety (90) days in jail.

D. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance or the application of any provision to a particular situation is held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining portions of this ordinance shall not be invalidated, nor shall such invalidation prohibit the application of the ordinance to any other situation.