

60.13.1 - Purpose.

The purpose of this article is to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of users of public streets, pedestrians, and the general public by permitting and regulating the operation of golf carts and off-road utility vehicles (UTVs) on city public streets as authorized by I.C.A., § 321.247.

60.13.2 - Definitions.

Golf cart means a four-wheeled recreational vehicle that is intended by the manufacturer to be used for the transportation of persons and equipment in the sport of golf or for maintenance of golf courses, and that is not legal to operate on streets and roads in the State of Iowa by I.C.A., § 321.247 unless approved by local jurisdictions. A golf cart is not an all-terrain vehicle or an off-road utility vehicle as defined by I.C.A., § 321.1(4). The City Council shall be permitted to determine if a recreational vehicle is a golf cart for the purposes of enforcing this article.

Off-road utility vehicle or *UTV*. As defined in I.C.A., ch. 321.1(47), off-road utility vehicle (UTV) means a motorized flotation-tire vehicle with not less than four (4) and not more than eight (8) low-pressure tires that is limited in engine displacement to less than one thousand five hundred (1,500) cubic centimeters and in total dry weight to not more than one thousand eight hundred (1,800) pounds and that has a seat that is of bucket or bench design, not intended to be straddled by the operator, and a steering wheel or control levers for control.

60.13.3 - Operation of golf carts and UTVs permitted

Golf carts and UTVs may be operated on city streets as permitted and limited by this article and this chapter.

60.13.4 - Registration required

(a) It shall be unlawful for a person to operate a Golf Cart and/or UTVs on city streets without first obtaining a valid certificate of registration issued by the Westwood City Council during regular scheduled meetings.

(b) Owners of golf carts and UTVs to be operated on city streets shall apply for a certificate of registration by completing a form furnished by the Westwood City Council and providing all of the following information:

(1) For UTV's, proof that the UTV is currently registered with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

(2) The name, address, phone number, and email address (if applicable) of the owner

(3) The make, model, year, and serial number of the golf cart or UTV

(4) A statement by the owner which verifies that the applicant understands all restrictions of the operation of golf carts and UTVs in the city.

(5) A statement by the owner which verifies that the owner will carry liability insurance as required by I.C.A., § 321.20B.

(6) A statement by the owner which holds the city harmless for all damages or liabilities related to the operation of golf carts and UTVs on city streets.

(7) A statement by the owner which affirms that the owner does not have any unpaid city parking tickets on any vehicle, golf cart, or UTV.

(8) A statement that the owners have a valid driver's license issued by the State of Iowa.

(c) The City of Westwood may, but shall not be required to nor shall it have the duty to, inspect the golf cart or UTV for compliance with this article before issuing a certificate of registration. If the information required to be provided on the application verified by the City of Westwood to be true and accurate, the applicant shall be issued a certificate of registration and registration sticker after paying the registration fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).

(d) All certificates of registration shall be valid only during the calendar year within which the certificate of registration was issued. Registration fees shall not be pro-rated for partial years. Certificates of registration may be renewed annually by paying the annual registration fee and by submitting a statement that the information provided on the original application remains accurate.

(e) Certificates of registration issued in violation of this article or based on false information shall be invalid. Registration fees paid for invalid certificates of registration shall not be refunded.

(f) Certificates of registration shall be carried on the golf cart/UTV at all times and shall be provided to law enforcement officers on request. The registration sticker shall be adhered to the left rear of the golf cart or UTV. Golf carts and UTVs shall not be operated without adhering said sticker. Stickers shall not be displayed if a certificate of registration expires or is revoked.

(g) Information on certificates of registration shall not be limited to and shall include the following information:

(1) A unique identifying certificate of registration number.

(2) The name, address, phone number, and email address (if applicable) of the owner.

(3) The make, model, year, and serial number of the golf cart or UTV.

(4) The date of issue and the date of expiration.

(5) The required equipment listed in section 60.13.5

(6) The rules of operation listed in section 60.13.6

(7) The restrictions listed in section 60.13.7

(8) The penalties listed in section 60.13.8.

60.13.5 - Required equipment

Golf carts and UTVs operated upon a city street shall be equipped with a standard slow-moving vehicle sign on the rear of the vehicle, a bicycle safety flag, and brake lights.

60.13.6 – Operation.

(a) Golf carts and UTVs shall be operated by licensed drivers age sixteen (16) or older.

(b) Golf carts and UTVs shall operate on city streets only from one-half (1/2) hour after sunrise to one-half (1/2) hour before sunset.

(c) Golf carts and UTVs shall not operate on city streets when weather conditions reduce visibility to less than five hundred (500) feet.

(d) Golf carts and UTVs shall not exceed a speed of twenty (20) miles per hour or the applicable speed limit required by this chapter, whichever is less.

(e) Passengers of golf carts and UTVs shall remain seated in seats provided by the manufacturer while the vehicle is in operation on city streets or other approved areas on public property. The number of passengers shall not exceed the number of passengers intended by the manufacturer.

60.13.7 - Restrictions.

(a) It shall be unlawful to operate a golf cart and/or UTV in city parks, cemeteries, trails or other city property except on improved roadways designated for use by the public.

(b) It shall be unlawful to operate a golf cart and/or UTV on public sidewalks except at designated driveway and street crossings.

(c) It shall be unlawful for golf carts and/or UTVs to tow any item.

60.13.8 – Penalty.

(a) In addition to penalties provided in this section, the certificate of registration for a golf cart or UTV which has been operated in violation of this article two (2) times in one (1) year shall be revoked for a period of one (1) year.

(b) A person who operates a golf cart in violation of this chapter not specific to this article shall be subject to the penalties

(c) A person who parks a golf cart or UTV in violation of this chapter shall be subject to the applicable penalties therein.