

Golf Cart Applicant

Dear Applicant:

In accordance with the provision of the City of Covington Ordinance, each qualified person desiring to operate a golf cart on the designated streets of the City of Covington (see attached street list in ordinance) shall first make an application in person to the Covington Police Department to obtain its own individual permit decal to be placed on the golf cart.

The owner of every motorized cart operated on the streets of the city shall cause such cart to be registered with the Covington Police Department within ten days of the date of its purchase. Upon such registration the Covington Police Department shall issue two numerical identification decals to the owner and shall maintain a record of each identification number, along with the name and address of the registered owner. The identification decals shall be affixed to the front windshield and rear fender area of the cart so as to be fully visible when the cart is in operation.

A registration fee of \$15.00 for each cart shall be payable at the time of registration, and the registration shall be effective for a period of five years. If the cart is transferred to another owner for operation in the city, the registration shall also be transferred to the new owner within ten business days of the date of transfer of the cart, and a transfer fee in the amount of \$15.00 paid to the city.

Golf carts are treated as vehicles and motor vehicles pursuant to Simmons v. State 281 Ga. App. 252, 635 S.E. 2d 849 (2006) and Coker v. State 261 Ga. App. 646 (2003). Golf shall have the following equipment: windshield, exhaust (if gas operated), horn, head lights, tail lights, brake lights, brakes, turn signals, and rear view mirror. Drivers are required to possess a driver's license or instructional permit.

Complete the application for the golf cart permit and return it to this office with the fee. Please be familiar with the attached ordinance. Any questions you may have should be directed to Cheryl Vaughn at (770) 786-7605.

Sincerely,

Stacey L. Cotton
Chief of Police

Things to Remember for Golf Carts

- Golf carts are prohibited on state routes.
 - Golf carts are prohibited on any street that is posted in excess of 35 miles an hour.
 - Golf carts are permitted only on city streets with the proper signage; know which streets are approved.
 - No driving of golf carts will be permitted on or around the downtown city square (streets around the square are considered State Hwy 36).
 - A golf cart is considered a motor vehicle and all traffic laws apply including offenses such as DUI and reckless driving.
 - You do not need insurance or registration to drive a golf cart.
 - Be considerate of vehicles around you and allow them to pass, keeping far to the right as possible.
 - No riding on sidewalks.
-
-

Chapter 10.18 MOTORIZED CARTS

Sections:

10.18.010 Findings; definition.

10.18.020 Registration; inspection certification.

10.18.030 Operation regulations.

10.18.040 Penalties.

10.18.010 Findings; definition.

The city council finds that all streets located within the corporate limits of the city, other than the streets hereinafter specifically excepted, are designed and constructed so as to safely permit their use by motorized carts in combination with regular vehicular traffic. "Motorized cart" as used in this chapter is defined as an electric or gasoline powered motor vehicle, having no less than three wheels and an unladen weight of one thousand three hundred (1,300) pounds or less, commonly called a golf cart, which is not designed for speeds in excess of twenty miles per hour.

(Ord. dated 11/3/08 (part))

10.18.020 Registration; inspection certification.

A. The owner of every motorized cart operated on the streets of the city shall cause such cart to be registered with the Covington police department within ten (10) days of the date of its purchase. Upon such registration the Covington police department shall issue two numerical identification decals to the owner and shall maintain a record of each identification number, along with the name and address of the registered owner. The identification decals shall be affixed to the front windshield and rear fender area of the cart so as to be fully visible when the cart is in operation.

A registration fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) for each cart shall be payable at the time of registration, and the registration shall be effective for a period of five years. If the cart is transferred to another owner for operation in the city, the registration shall also be transferred to the new owner within ten (10) business days of the date of transfer of the cart, and a transfer fee in the amount of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) paid to the city.

B. 1. The exhaust system of every registered cart which is powered by a gasoline engine shall be maintained in proper working condition.

2. It is unlawful for any registered cart on which any device installed thereon by the manufacturer for the purpose of controlling exhaust emissions has been removed or altered so as to interfere with its operation to be operated on any city street.

(Ord. dated 11/3/08 (part))

10.18.030 Operation regulations.

A. Operation of motorized carts in the city shall comply in every respect with the requirements of Georgia law, including, without limitation, the provisions of O.C.G.A. Sections 40-6-330 and 40-6-331, and all other statutory regulations applicable to vehicular traffic and safety equipment.

B. Only persons possessing a valid driver's license or instruction permit issued by the state of Georgia, another state of the United States of America or an appropriate international agency shall be permitted to operate a motorized cart on the streets of the city.

C. Motorized carts shall not be operated on sidewalks in the city.

D. Motorized carts shall not be operated on the following streets within the city:

TABLE INSET:

Aaron Drive
Access Road
Industrial Blvd NE
Industrial Drive NE
Bob Williams Pkwy NE
Lake Forest Court NE
Liberty Drive NE
Independence Circle
Industrial Park Blvd NE
American Way NE
Avenue of Champions NE
Brown Bridge Road SW
City Pond Road NE
Lochridge Blvd NE
North Park Drive NE
Old Atlanta Hwy
Robinson Street NW
Pace Street NE
Piper Street NW
Exit 92 Off Ramp
Exit 92 On Ramp
Flat Shoals Road
GA Hwy 142 NE
GA Hwy 36
Washington Street
Herring Street
I-20
Keegan Court
U.S. Highway 278
Alcovy Road NE

Covington Bypass Road SE
Dr. M L King Jr. Ave. SE
Elm Street NE
Old City Pond Road NE
Exit 90 Off Ramp
Exit 90 On Ramp
Prater Drive NE
Roberts Way NE
Technology Drive NE
Turner Lake Road
Independence Drive
Georgia Peach Ave NE
Harland Drive NE
Wheat Street NE
Williams Road
Industrial Way NE
Crowne Ridge Ct NE
Georgia Highway 81

Maps showing prohibited streets will be kept on file and available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Covington police department and the city of Covington Transportation Manager's Office.

E. Motorized carts may cross the streets listed in subsection D. of this section only at intersections with streets that cross the said streets.

F. Crossing of Georgia state highways by motorized carts shall only be permitted at crossings approved by the Georgia Department of Transportation.

G. Motorized carts shall not be operated on or across any street for which the speed limit is set at greater than thirty-five (35) miles per hour, nor on or across any street on which such operation is determined by the mayor and council to be otherwise unsafe.

H. Golf carts shall only be operated on city streets that are posted with signage authorizing such operation as required by O.C.G.A. 40-6-331. Signage will be erected on a case by case basis when requested of and approved by the city of Covington mayor and city council.

(Ord. dated 11/3/08 (part))

(Ord. dated 6/1/09, §§ 1--3)

10.18.040 Penalties.

Any person who is convicted of violating the provisions of this chapter shall be punished as provided in Chapter 1.12 of this code.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Covington duly assembled, and it is ordained by the authority of same, that Section 10.18.030 (Operation regulations) of Chapter 10.18 (Motorized Carts) of the Covington Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

1.

By deleting subsection D. thereof in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof the following:

"D. Motorized carts shall not be operated on the following streets within the city:"

2.

By deleting following streets from those listed in subsection D. thereof:

Church Street, S.E.

Monticello Street, S.W.

Emory Street

Clark Street, N.W.

Hazelbrand Road, beginning 200 yards north of U. S. Highway 278

3.

By adding a new subsection E. thereto, as follows:


"E. Motorized carts may cross the streets listed in subsection D. of this section only at intersections with streets that cross the said streets."

This ordinance shall become effective as of the date of its enactment. All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith shall be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

ENACTED AND ADOPTED this first day of June, 2009.

CITY OF COVINGTON

By:


KIMBERLY C. CARTER, Mayor

Attest:


TONYA H. GRIER, City Clerk

(CITY SEAL)



Stacey Cotton
Chief of Police

Covington Police Department Application for Golf Cart Permit

Almond Turner
Assistant Chief



Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Home Address _____
(Number & Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Home Phone No _____ Cell Phone No _____

Business Telephone _____

Birth Date _____

Height _____ Weight _____ Hair _____ Eyes _____ Race _____ Sex _____

Driver's License # _____ State _____

Make of Golf Cart _____ Model/Year _____

Color _____ Gas or Electric _____

Upon the inspection of the golf cart, approval of this application and issuance of a permit decal, it is understood that the permit decal must be suffixed to the front windshield and rear fender and that said permit is good for five years from date of application.

Applicant's Signature (Full Name) _____

Office Use Only

Date Inspected: _____

Permit # _____

Approved _____ Denied _____

Expires _____

Reason Denied _____

Covington Police Representative _____

