

Town of Norwood

Golf Cart Ordinance #174

Operation of Golf Carts – Purpose, Disclaimer and Assumption of Risk

- a.) The purpose of this ordinance is to provide a means of travel that convenient, cost-effective and energy efficient. In order to promote the safety of drivers, passengers and the general public in the Town of Norwood. Regulations pertaining to the operation of Golf Carts must comply with applicable state laws and Town of Norwood regulations pertaining to the operation of traditional motor vehicles, and must also comply with the specific provisions included in this Ordinance.
- b.) Golf Carts are not designed for, nor manufactured to be used on public streets and the Town of Norwood neither advocates nor endorses the golf cart as a safe means of travel on public streets. The Town of Norwood is no way liable for accidents, injuries or deaths involving or resulting from the operation of a golf cart
- c.) Any person who owns, operates or rides a golf cart on a public street within the Town of Norwood and does so at his or her own risk and peril. Owners/Operators assume all liability resulting from the operation of a golf cart.

Definitions of Words and Phrases

The following words and phrases when used in this chapter shall, for the purpose of this ordinance, have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, except in any instance where otherwise specifically provided or where the context clearly indicates a different meaning.

- a.) *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 speeds of twenty (20) mph.
- b.) *Golf Cart Operator*. The individual in physical control of a golf cart that is moving or has its' key inserted and in the "On" position.
- c.) *Driver's License*. A valid license issued to operate a motor vehicle issued by North Carolina or any other state as long as driving privileges are not suspended/revoked by the state of North Carolina.
- d.) *Financial Responsibility*. Liability insurance coverage on a golf cart in an amount not less than required by North Carolina Law for motor vehicles operated on a public highway in the state of North Carolina.

Rules and Regulations for Permitted Golf Carts

- a.) Golf carts may be operated on the public streets and property owned and/or leased by the Town of Norwood only in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance. However,

it shall be unlawful to operate any golf cart that is not properly registered with and permitted by the Town of Norwood or to operate any golf cart at any place or in any manner not authorized here within.

- b.) Golf carts are not permitted to drive on Main St/ US Hwy 52. This road may only be crossed at a proper intersection.
- c.) Golf carts can be operated from 7am to 11pm on all public streets that are posted at 35mph or lower. The golf cart must be equipped with two (2) headlights on the front and two (2) taillights on the rear which are visible from a distance of 250 feet.
- d.) Personal golf carts should not be operated on the sidewalk, with the exception of Town of Norwood Personnel, other governmental agencies and/or public service agencies on official business.
- e.) Golf carts do not qualify as electric personal mobility devices to assist the Handicapped and/or Elderly and must be properly registered and permitted.

Public Safety Requirements

- a.) The owner must be at least eighteen (18) years of age and possess a valid drivers' license
- b.) The Owner must possess and maintain liability insurance not less than the minimum limits required by the North Carolina state law for motor vehicles operated on public streets.
- c.) Golf carts must stay to the far right of the traveled portion of the road and yield the right-of-way to overtaking vehicles. Carts must follow traffic patterns.
- d.) The number of occupants must not exceed the amount of seating pre-installed. The operator and all occupants shall remain seated and all extremities remain inside the golf cart at any time while in motion.
- e.) All applicable State Laws, Rules and Regulations shall be adhered to, including the possession and use of alcoholic beverages.

Golf Cart Requirements

- In order to register a golf cart and secure an annual permit, a golf cart must have the following safety features installed:
 - 1.) Two (2) operating front headlights, visible from a distance of at least two hundred fifty (250) feet.
 - 2.) Two (2) operating tail lights, with brake lights and turn signals visible from a distance of at least two hundred fifty (250) feet.
 - 3.) A rear-view mirror
 - 4.) At least one (1) reflector per side
 - 5.) A parking-brake
 - 6.) A windshield
 - 7.) Must be limited to three (3) rows seating
- Prior to the issuance of an initial permit or annual renewal, the Town of Norwood Police Department shall inspect the golf cart for compliance with the requirements of

this article. No golf cart shall be registered and permitted unless it is in compliance with all requirements of this section.

Permits and Fees

- a.) Prior to the issuance of an initial permit or annual renewal, the owner shall sign an acknowledgement as part of the application for permit that he/she has read and understands all the provisions in this article.
- b.) A waiver of liability must be signed releasing Town of Norwood, its employees and affiliates from any and all liability that may arise as a result of operating a cart inside the Town of Norwood. A current waiver must be on file and renewed annually.
- c.) Permit and Annual Renewal fees can be found on the Town of Norwood's schedule of fees.
- d.) Any and all paperwork regarding insurance, registration form and waiver of liability will be held and maintained by Norwood Townhall.
- e.) Permit sticker must be located on the driver-side rear of the golf cart.

Penalties and Violations

- a.) Any act constituting a violation of this ordinance or a failure to comply with any of its requirements shall subject the offender, upon conviction, guilty of a misdemeanor and/or subject to a fine not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00). Each day that any of the provisions of this Ordinance is violated shall constitute a separate offense.
- b.) It is the policy of the Norwood Police Department to issue a uniform citation or an ordinance violation against any person the officer has probable cause to believe has violated this Ordinance, whether the offending person is a juvenile or any other person.

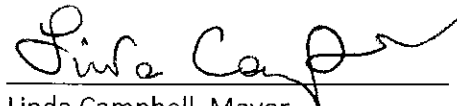
Standards of Operation and Revocation

- a.) No All-Terrain vehicles, 4-wheel utility vehicles, go-karts and/or other similar utility vehicles which are not manufactured for operation on a golf course, and/or golf cart which has been modified so that it no longer meets the definition of a golf cart may not be registered as a golf cart under this article nor shall such vehicles be operated on public streets in the Town of Norwood, unless such vehicles are registered and permitted under the motor vehicle laws of the state of North Carolina.
- b.) Golf carts are subject to the same parking regulations as traditional motor vehicles, and may only be parked in the same manner and in the same places designated for parking of traditional motor vehicles.
- c.) Golf carts may park in handicapped parking spaces if the driver has a valid handicapped placard or sticker and the same is clearly posted or displayed in the golf cart.
- d.) Golf carts may not be used for the purpose of towing another cart, trailer or vehicle of any kind. This includes a person on roller skates, skateboard, bicycle, etcetera.
- e.) The Town of Norwood may refuse to register and issue a permit for the operation of a golf cart, or may immediately revoke a previously issued permit.

Reason for Revocation

- Owner of golf cart is operating golf cart under the influence of an impairing substance. Denial/Revocation will be effective for one (1) year unless the charge is dismissed or owner/operator is acquitted. Permit will be immediately reinstated as long as conditions have been met.
- If the owner/operator has had three (3) or more violations of this article and/or violation of state law within a three (3) year time period. Said revocation and/or denial shall be effective for one (1) year.
- All revocation periods shall be effective from the date of the notification of revocation letter, provide that the revoked registration plate is surrendered to the Norwood Police Department within fourteen (14) days of the date of notification. If the revoked registration plate is not surrendered within fourteen (14) days, then the revocations shall be effective for one (1) year once the plate is surrendered, or seized by, the Norwood Police Department.

Adopted this 3rd day of May 2021.


Linda Campbell, Mayor


Kelly Caudle, Town Clerk

NORWOOD

The Gateway to Lake Tillery

Golf Cart Registration Application (please print in blue or black ink)

Permit Fee: <u>\$60.00</u>
Date Fee Paid: _____

Golf Cart Owner's Name: _____

Owner's Physical Address: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Owner's Mailing Address (if different): _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Owner's Phone No.: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

Owner's Email Address: _____

Owner's Driver's License Number: _____

Make/Manufacturer of Golf Cart: _____

Model/Year: _____ Color of Golf Cart: _____

Liability Insurance (Company, Policy Number, Name of Insured): _____

****Must attach copies of liability insurance and driver's license****

I have received, read, and understand the "Golf Cart Ordinance." I have paid the registration fee for the above cart and agree to additional assessments as may be required in support of this ordinance. I acknowledge that I will assume all liability, and am fully responsible for the operation of the above cart on the streets and roads in the Town of Norwood. I also acknowledge that the Town of Norwood, in providing this privilege, is in no way endorsing the operation of this cart on the streets and roads, and does not and will not assume any liability in the operation of the cart. I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Town of Norwood for any and all liability arising from the use of this golf cart. I also understand that the Town of Norwood's interpretation of all the rules and regulations are final. I will ensure that the permit sticker will remain attached to the driver's side of the cart at all times. Furthermore, I ensure that will obey all the rules and regulations set forth by the Town of Norwood concerning the operation of a cart within the town limits.

Owner's Signature

Date