

**VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSFIELD
KNOX COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-11

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING
THE OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS AND
NEIGHBORHOOD VEHICLES
ON THE VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSFIELD PUBLIC STREETS**

WHEREAS, residents of the Village of Williamsfield have requested that the Village permit the use of golf carts and neighborhood vehicles for travel on Village streets; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Williamsfield has considered the volume, speed and character of traffic on the Village streets, and has determined that the usage authorized by this Ordinance will not jeopardize the public safety; and

WHEREAS, Illinois law, 625 ILCS 5/11-1426.1 and 2, authorizes Illinois municipalities to regulate and allow golf cart and neighborhood vehicles usage on municipal streets under certain circumstances and conditions; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of this Ordinance to regulate the use of motorized golf carts within the corporate limits of the Village of Williamsfield as authorized by state statute, 625 ILCS 5/11-1426.1 and 2.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSFIELD, ILLINOIS, as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS. “Golf Cart” – means a vehicle specifically designed and intended for the purposes of transporting one or more persons and their golf clubs or maintenance equipment while engaged in the playing of golf, supervising the play of golf, or maintaining the condition of the grounds on a public or private golf course.

“Neighborhood Vehicle” – Self-propelled, electronically powered four-wheeled motor vehicle (or a self-propelled, gasoline powered four-wheeled motor vehicle with an engine displacement under 1,200 cubic centimeters) which is capable of attaining in one mile a speed of more than 20 miles per hour, but not more than 25 miles per hour, and which conforms to federal regulations under Title 49 C.R.F. Part 571.500.

“Village Streets” – Any of the streets within the boundaries of the Village of Williamsfield, Illinois, except for state and county roads.

2. POLICY STATEMENT – This Ordinance is adopted in the interest of public safety. Golf carts and neighborhood vehicles are not designed or manufactured to be used on public streets and roads, hereinafter “street(s),” and the Village of Williamsfield in no way advocates or endorses their operation on streets. The Village, by regulating such operation is merely

addressing safety issues. This Ordinance is not to be relied upon as determination that operation on streets is safe or advisable even if done in accordance with this Ordinance. All persons operating golf carts and neighborhood vehicles must be observant of, and attentive to the safety of themselves and others, including their passengers, other motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians. All persons who operate or ride golf carts and neighborhood vehicles on streets inside the Village of Williamsfield do so at their own risk and peril. The Village of Williamsfield has no liability under any theory of liability for permitting golf carts to be operated on Village streets.

3. RULES AND REGULATIONS

Golf carts and neighborhood vehicles may only be operated on streets within the Village of Williamsfield in accordance with the following rules and regulations. Any person who operates a golf cart and neighborhood vehicle in the Village of Williamsfield:

- takes full responsibility for all liability associated with operating the golf cart or neighborhood vehicle.
- must be at least sixteen (16) years of age and possess a valid driver's license to operate a motor vehicle issued by Illinois or any other state. Must adhere to graduated driving laws according/set by State of Illinois with passenger limit.
- must possess proof of liability insurance, meeting Illinois statutes requirements.
- shall have headlight and tail lamps lighted at all times when operated on Village streets.
- may not travel when visibility is impaired by weather, smoke, fog or other conditions or at any time when there is insufficient light to clearly see persons and vehicles on the roadway at a distance of 500 feet. Riding restrictions are also limited to riding dusk to dawn with exceptions of ATV'S with snow plow blades and only for that use.
- may not travel on sidewalks or Village parks other than parking areas.
- may travel on Village streets at a rate of 20 mph or less.
- may not be operated on State Route 180 except to cross said highway at intersections in a path ninety (90) degrees to said highway.
- must be equipped as follows: at a minimum it has the following: horn, brakes, a steering apparatus, tires, a rearview mirror, red reflectorized warning devices in the front and rear, a "slow moving emblem" with a "3 inch high" permit number in the middle on the rear of the golf cart, a headlight that emits a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front, a tail lamp that emits a red light visible from at least 100 feet from the rear, brake lights, and turn signals.

- process is void if driving under the influence, suspend/revoked and subject to impound per Village of Williamsfield Ordinance 2015-4.
- no towing/pulling of any kind on Village streets or property.
- must adhere to all applicable State laws concerning the possession and use of alcoholic beverages, and all other illegal drugs, and all other state traffic laws.
- must yield the right-of-way to overtaking vehicles at all times.
- a maximum occupancy of one person per bucket seat or two per bench seat.
- children must be properly seated, with seatbelts for children under six (6) years of age, while said vehicle is in motion, and may not be transported in a negligent manner.
- only allowed to park in handicapped parking spaces if the driver or at least one passenger has a valid handicap parking sticker.
- driver must have a valid driver's license.
- vehicles must be inspected by the Chief of Police, and have valid permit documentation from the Village visibly displayed on slow-moving emblem.
- neighborhood vehicles with motors in excess of 900 cc shall not be permitted under this ordinance.

4. **PERMITS**

- Every application for a permit shall be made on a form supplied by the Village. (See form beyond last page of this Ordinance.)
- A non-refundable permit application fee of Twenty-five and No/100 (\$25.00) Dollars for all applicants. It is the vehicle that is being licensed and this registration is non-transferable.
- Such other information as the Village may require.
- Permits shall be granted for a period of one (1) year and may be renewed every year thereafter by the anniversary date which is September 1st.

No permit shall be granted unless the following conditions are met:

- The Village may suspend or revoke a permit upon a finding that the holder thereof has violated any provision of this Article or there is evidence that permittee cannot safely operate a qualified golf cart on the designated roadways. The Chief of Police and the Village Police Committee shall decide the length of suspension when necessary.
- The Village President, Chief of Police, and the Trustees' Police Committee shall monitor the administration and enforcement of this Ordinance.

5. ENFORCEMENT

(1) Any violation of this Ordinance shall be punishable by a fine of not less than Fifty and No/100 (\$50.00) Dollars nor more than Five Hundred and No/100 (\$500.00) Dollars for each violation.

(2) A second violation of this Ordinance shall, in addition to being subject to a fine, be grounds for the revocation of the vehicle's permit issued for a period up to one (1) year.

(3) The Board of Trustees of the Village of Williamsfield reserves the right to amend or repeal this Ordinance at any time, and if such amendment or repeal affects the rights of permit holders, all permit holders will be notified thereof by the Village by certified mail.

(4) No person receiving a permit pursuant to the terms of this Ordinance shall have any legal right to the continuation of said permit regardless of the cost of rendering a golf cart or neighborhood vehicle in compliance with this Ordinance. The Village of Williamsfield shall **not**, under any circumstances, be liable for any expenses incurred by an applicant or licensee for that applicant or licensee's costs to make the necessary modifications required by the Village.

6. PASSAGE. – This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

PASSED: This 14 day of September, 2015.

APPROVED: This 14 day of September, 2015.


Michael Gray, President

ATTEST:


Tori Courson, Village Clerk

