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St. Charles Parish Sheriff 's Office

Public Information

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News Release

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Golf Cart Enforcement Notice



With summer approaching, more reports of children driving golf carts in subdivisions will be received. Sheriff Greg Champagne would like to remind the public that this is not only prohibited but a significant safety concern. Parents should not allow underage, non-licensed children to operate the carts on public streets. In recent months, there has been a death and a serious injury reported while on a golf cart. We want our citizens to enjoy taking an evening stroll on their golf carts and stop to talk to their neighbors, but we want to make sure it is done safely and legally.

On January 22, 2018, the St. Charles Parish Council passed an ordinance that allows the legal operation of golf carts under the following provisions under Louisiana Law:

1. Anyone operating a golf cart must possess a valid Louisiana Driver's License.
2. The golf cart must be registered with the Louisiana Office of Motor Vehicles (OMV) and have an OMV "Off Road" decal applied.
3. Following OMV registration, a St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office deputy must inspect the golf cart, and an SCSO decal must also be applied to the vehicle.* (See below checklist)

4. The licensed operator must have proof of liability insurance covering the golf cart.
5. The golf cart must be operated ONLY on a parish street with a posted speed limit of 25 MPH or LESS. Crossing or operating a golf cart on any state highway, levee, parish property, or right of way is prohibited.
6. The golf cart shall be operated under all state traffic laws and carry only the number of passengers it was designed for.

St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Checklist:

- Vehicle must have efficient brakes
- Vehicle must have a reliable steering apparatus
- Vehicle must have safe tires
- Vehicle must have a rearview mirror
- Vehicle must have red reflective warning devices on both the front and rear
- Vehicle must have front and rear turn signal lamps
- Vehicle must have tail lamps
- Vehicle must have brake lamps
- Vehicle must have headlamps
- Vehicle must have a Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)
- Vehicle must have an OMV "Off Road" decal
- Operator must have proof of insurance for the vehicle

Once you have completed your checklist, go to www.stcharlessheriff.org/FormCenter/Services-5/Golf-Cart-Final-Inspection-Request-47 to request a Final Inspection!

Please take this opportunity to familiarize yourself with the guidelines for legally operating a golf cart. Also, go over the checklist to get your golf cart "street legal," and then contact the sheriff's office at the link above to get your decal.

Deputies will be out looking for violators. If you do not comply with the law, you will be cited. This is unfair to law-abiding citizens who have followed the rules and regulations.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!!