

## Chapter 415. Golf Carts and Recreational Off-Highway Vehicles

[HISTORY: Adopted by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Forrest May 2012; amended April 2015 (§ 16.11 of the 2008 Municipal Code). Amendments noted where applicable.]

### § 415-1. Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to allow the travel on some streets within the corporate limits of the Village by certain golf carts and recreational off-highway vehicles which have been registered with the Village.

### § 415-2. Definitions.

Whenever in this chapter the following terms are used, they shall have for the purpose of this section only the following meanings:

#### **ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE**

Any motorized off-highway device designed to travel primarily off-highway, 50 inches or less in width, having a manufacturer's dry weight of 1,500 pounds or less, traveling on three or more non-highway tires, designed with a seat or saddle for operator use, and handlebars or steering wheel for steering control, except equipment such as lawn mowers.

#### **GOLF CART**

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 of a public or private golf course.

#### **RECREATIONAL OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE**

Any motorized off-highway device designed to travel primarily off-highway, 64 inches or less in width, having a manufacturer's dry weight of 2,000 pounds or less for gas-powered engines or 3,000 pounds or less for electric-powered engines, traveling on four or more non-highway tires, designed with a non-straddle seat and a steering wheel for steering control, except equipment such as lawn mowers.

[Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 100, General Provisions, Art. I)]

### § 415-3. Limitations on operation.

[Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 100, General Provisions, Art. I)]

Subject to the limitations set forth in this chapter, any person who is 16 years old or older and with a valid driver's license may operate a golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle registered in the manner hereinafter set forth on any street or highway under the jurisdiction of the Village where the posted speed limit is 20 miles per hour or less. This section shall not be construed as granting permission for any person operating a golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle to drive upon or cross any street or highway under the jurisdiction of Forrest Township or Livingston County; or to drive upon (except to

cross as described in § 415-8 below) any highway under the jurisdiction of the Illinois Department of Transportation, including, without limitation, Illinois Route 47 and U.S. Route 24. This section shall not be construed as granting permission to any person to operate an all-terrain (or similar) vehicle, dirt bike, or any other unlicensed motorized vehicle on any street in the Village of Forrest, except for vehicles as provided for in Chapter 465, Recreational Vehicles, of the Village Code.

#### § 415-4. Safety equipment.

No golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle may be operated on a street or highway under the jurisdiction of the Village unless, at a minimum, it has the following safety equipment:

- A. Brakes.
- B. Steering apparatus.
- C. Tires.
- D. Rearview mirror.
- E. A slow-moving emblem (as required of other vehicles at 625 ILCS 5/12-709) on the rear of the golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle, optional.
- F. Headlights that will emit a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet from the front.
- G. A tail lamp that emits a red light visible from a distance of at least 100 feet from the rear.
- H. Brake lights.
- I. Turn signals.
- J. Separate seat belts for the operator and each passenger.

#### § 415-5. Operation of golf carts and recreational off-highway vehicles.

When on a street or highway under the jurisdiction of the Village, a golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle shall be operated in accordance with the following regulations.

- A. The golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle shall have its headlights and tail lamps lighted at all times.
- B. Any person operating a golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle as authorized in this chapter shall travel on the street in the same direction as traffic and as near to the right side of the roadway as possible.
- C. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, any person operating a golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle on streets or highways under the jurisdiction of the Village shall obey any and all traffic regulations set forth either in the Village of Forrest Code or in the Illinois Vehicle Code.
- D. The operator and all passengers must wear a seat belt.
- E. The golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle may not be operated on any public (common) sidewalk or boulevard, or private property without the property owner's consent or Village property marked "No Trespassing" and similar markings.

#### § 415-6. Insurance.

The operator of a golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle must at all times when the vehicle is operated on streets within the Village, carry evidence that the operator and the vehicle are covered by liability insurance in the manner and amounts required by Chapter 7, Article VI, of the Illinois Vehicle Code, as from time to time amended.

## § 415-7. Registration.

- A. No golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle may be operated on the streets of the Village as authorized in this section unless the golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle has been registered with the Village Clerk on a registration form provided by the Village Clerk. A person registering a golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle must provide the following information annually at the time of registration:
- (1) The name and address of the owner(s) of the vehicle.
  - (2) The name and address and driver's license number of all persons authorized by the owner(s) to operate the vehicle.
  - (3) The make, model and serial number of the vehicle.
  - (4) A certificate of insurance demonstrating the existence of liability insurance coverage for the period of registration as required by § 415-6.
- B. Annually, a representative of the Village shall inspect the vehicle to insure that it has been outfitted with safety equipment as required by § 415-4. The owner of the vehicle shall pay an annual registration fee at the time of registration, as set forth in the Fee Schedule on file in the Village offices. Upon verification the vehicle meets all requirements imposed by this chapter, the owner of the vehicle shall be issued registration permit. Term of the first years registration permit shall be from June 1 through May 31 or portion thereof. Subsequent permits shall be for one year beginning June 1 and expiring on May 31. Registrations are not transferable.  
[Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 100, General Provisions, Art. I)]
- C. Registration will be done only on Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., April 1 through November 30, by appointment only.

## § 415-8. State and U.S. route crossing points.

- A. A golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle may cross Route 47 at the intersection of Route 47 and John Street or at the intersection of Route 47 and Martin Street or at the intersection of Route 47 and North Street or at the intersection of Route 47 and Walnut Street.
- B. A golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle may cross Route 24 only at the intersection of Route 24 and Beech Street.

## § 415-9. Violations and penalties.

- A. The penalty for operating a golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle without a current registration or operable safety equipment or licensed driver as outlined in §§ 415-3, 415-4 and 415-5 above shall be a fine of \$750, payable to the Village of Forrest, and the loss of registration rights for that vehicle for a period of one year. Each day in violation of §§ 415-3, 415-4 and 415-5 will constitute a separate incident. In addition to a law enforcement officer, this citation may be issued by any Village of Forrest Trustee or Village President.  
[Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 100, General Provisions, Art. I)]
- B. The penalty for operating a golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle in violation of §§ 415-6, 415-7, and 415-8 shall be a fine \$750 payable to the Village of Forrest. Each violation of §§ 415-6,

**415-7**, and **415-8** will constitute a separate incident. In addition to a law enforcement officer, this citation may be issued by any Village of Forrest Trustee or Village President.

[Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 100, General Provisions, Art. I)]

- C. While in operation, the traffic laws and associated penalties provided by the Illinois Vehicle Code also apply to a golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle.