

SECTION 904
MOTORIZED GOLF CARTS

SUBSECTION:

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904.100 PURPOSE: Pursuant to its authority under Minnesota Statutes, Section 169.045, the City authorizes the operation of motorized golf carts on designated roadways as permitted under this Section.

904.200: DEFINITIONS: For the purpose of this chapter the following definition shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

Authorized Operator: Only persons with a valid driver's license may operate the golf cart.

Community Events: Events sponsored, co-sponsored or supported by the City. Community events may also include celebrations organized by a nonprofit, community based organization intended to serve the entire community. The City Manager shall determine if an event qualifies for the exemption.

Designated Roadways: The roadways listed on the approved permit on which the motorized golf cart may operate. Designated roadways must be public streets under City jurisdiction with speed limits of 35 miles per hour or less.

Motorized Golf Cart: A self-propelled vehicle of the type and style designated for and commonly used by patrons of golf courses, including three or four wheeled vehicles specifically designed for handicap mobility equipped with the proper slow moving vehicle signage and rearview mirrors. This definition specifically excludes vehicles commonly known as all terrain vehicles or ATV's.

904.300: PERMIT REQUIRED: No motorized golf cart may be operated on designated roadways, or any public right-of-way or public property without first obtaining a permit from the City.

904.301: Permit Application: Every application for a motorized golf cart permit must be made on a form supplied by the City and must contain the following information:

- Date;
- The name, address and phone number of the applicant;
- A copy of the applicant's driver's license;
- Make, model and serial number of the vehicle;
- Proof of insurance, including the company name, policy number, effective dates, and coverage;
- The roadways on which the motorized golf cart will be operated;
- The time of operation of the motorized golf cart; and
- Such other information as the City may require.

904.302: Fees: The City Council may establish an annual fee for a permit.

904.303: Term of Permit. Permits are effective for one (1) calendar year beginning January 1st and ending December 31st, and may be annually renewed.

904.304: The applicant must provide evidence of insurance complying with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Section 65B.48, with the permit application. Every motorized golf cart operator shall have proof of insurance in possession while operating the motorized golf cart on designated streets and shall produce such proof of insurance on demand of a police officer as specified in Minnesota Statutes 169.791.

904.400: OPERATING CONDITIONS:

904.401: Designated Roadways: Motorized golf carts may only be operated on the designated roadways specified on the approved permit.

904.402: Prohibited Operation: The operation of motorized golf carts is expressly prohibited on all public bike trails, walking trails and sidewalks except in the case of the signed ADA access from Kop Parkway to Watzl's Beach.

904.403: Times of Operation: Motorized golf carts may only be operated on the designated roadways from sunrise to sunset. They shall not be operated in inclement weather or 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.

904.404: Slow-Moving Emblem and Rear-View Mirrors:

- 9 Motorized golf carts must display the slow-moving emblem as described in Minnesota Statutes, Section 169.522 when operated on designated roadways.
- 9 Motorized golf carts must be equipped with a rear-view mirror.

904.405: Crossing Intersecting Highways: The operator, under permit, of a motorized golf cart may cross any street or highway at signalized intersections.

- 904.406: Application of Traffic Laws: Every person operating a motorized golf cart under permit on designated roadways has all the rights and duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle under Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 169, except when those provisions cannot reasonably be applied to motorized golf carts and except as otherwise specifically provided in Minnesota Statutes, Section 169.045, Subdivision 7.
- 904.500: **SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF PERMIT:** A permit may be revoked at any time by the City Manager or designee if the permittee has violated any of the provisions of this section or of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 169, or if there is evidence the permittee cannot safely operate the motorized golf cart on the designated roadways. The City Manager or designee will conduct a hearing to determine if the permit should be revoked after providing the permittee with five (5) days written notice. Any Police Officer may temporarily suspend a permit prior to the hearing if, in the Police Officer's professional judgment, public safety would otherwise be endangered.
- 904.501: Appeal of Permit Revocation: A permittee may appeal the decision of the City Manager or designee to revoke or suspend a permit to the City Council. Such an appeal must be filed in writing within five (5) business days of the City Manager's decision. The City Council will conduct a hearing at the next possible regular City Council meeting to determine if the revocation or suspension should be sustained.
- 904.600: **EXEMPTION:** The City Manager or designee may waive the requirements of this Section for the operation of motorized golf carts as part of a community event, as defined in Section 904.200.
- 904.700: **VIOLATION; PENALTY:** Any person violating the terms of this Section shall lose his/her permit to operate a motorized golf cart in the City of Prior Lake and, upon conviction thereof, be found guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished in accordance with the penalties established by Minnesota Statutes.