

Fayette County Ordinances

Chapter 10, Article III, Section 10 (Motorized Carts)

Sec. 10-41. Findings; definition.

- (a) *Findings.* The board of commissioners finds that certain public streets located within the unincorporated county are designed and constructed so as to safely permit the use thereof by regular vehicular traffic and also the driving thereon of motorized carts. The board of commissioners further finds that recreation paths are designed and constructed so as to safely permit travel thereon by motorized carts.
- (b) *Definitions.* The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:
- *Authorized streets* - means all such streets which have been authorized for motorized cart travel and are on file with the planning and zoning department. The list of authorized streets is subject to amendment from time to time by the board of commissioners.
 - *County* means Fayette County, Georgia.
 - *Motorized cart* means all electric and gasoline-powered pleasure carts which are commonly called golf carts. Within this article, the terms "motorized cart," "golf cart" and "cart" shall have the same meanings; these are the only carts authorized for use under this article.

(Ord. No. 95-10, 4-27-95)

Sec. 10-42. Operation of gasoline-powered carts.

- (a) Every cart shall at all times be equipped with an exhaust system in good working order and in constant operation, meeting the following specifications:
- (1) The exhaust system shall include the piping leading from the flange of the exhaust manifold to, and including, the muffler(s) and exhaust pipe(s).
 - (2) The exhaust system and its elements shall be securely fastened.
 - (3) The engine of every cart shall be so equipped, adjusted and tuned, as to prevent the escape of excessive smoke or fumes.

- (b) It shall be unlawful for the owner of any cart to operate, or permit the operation of, such cart on which any device controlling or abating atmospheric emissions, which is placed on a cart by the manufacturer, has been altered, rendered unserviceable or removed.

Sec. 10-43. Operating regulations.

- (a) Any person who possesses a valid motor vehicle driver's license and is at least sixteen (16) years of age may operate a motorized cart on the recreation paths and authorized streets.
- (b) Any person who possesses a valid motor vehicle learner's permit and is at least fifteen (15) years of age may operate a motorized cart on the recreation paths and authorized streets, so long as such person is accompanied in the front seat by a person who possesses a valid motor vehicle driver's license and is at least eighteen (18) years of age.
- (c) No person less than fifteen (15) years of age shall be permitted to operate a motorized cart on the recreation paths and authorized streets under any circumstances.
- (d) All operators of motorized carts shall abide by all traffic regulations applicable to vehicular traffic when using the recreation paths and authorized streets. Recreation paths must be used in preference to parallel authorized streets.
- (e) Motorized carts shall not be operated on sidewalks at any time.
- (f) Motorized carts may be operated over authorized streets or paths only during daylight hours, unless such motorized carts are equipped with functional headlights and taillights.
- (g) It shall be unlawful for the owner of any motorized cart to operate, or permit the operation of, such cart over the recreation paths or authorized streets in violation of this article.

Sec. 10-44. Recreation path users prohibited uses.

Recreation paths shall not be used by:

- (1) Automobiles and trucks, except authorized maintenance vehicles;
- (2) Motorcycles;
- (3) Street and trail motorized bikes or vehicles, including, but not limited to, all-terrain vehicles, commonly known as ATVs;

- (4) Minibikes and mopeds;
- (5) Horses; and
- (6) Go-carts.

Sec. 10-45. Hazardous activities and special rules.

No individual or group shall engage in hazardous activities on the recreation paths or authorized streets. Such hazardous activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (1) Racing of any kind, except for special events approved by the county.
- (2) Blocking of public access, except for special events approved by the county.
- (3) Pedestrians, skaters and permitted vehicles shall not loiter or park on recreation path bridges or in underpasses.
- (4) Pedestrians should be given due consideration and reasonable right-of-way by other users of the recreation paths to ensure safe passage.
- (5) An audible warning shall be given by operators of motorized carts and other users of the recreation paths, such as bicyclists and skaters, when approaching pedestrians from the rear.
- (6) All laws and ordinances relative to alcohol and the use thereof, including open container laws, apply to the recreation paths.

Sec. 10-46. Liability.

Each person using the recreation paths is liable for his or her own actions.

Sec. 10-47. Penalties.

Any person who violates the terms of this article shall be punished as provided in section 1-8 of the county code.