

ADDENDUM/REVISION 8-2-18

2018 GOLF CART / LOW SPEED VEHICLE REFERENCE GUIDE

What is a designated road

Designated County Road means a county road or portion thereof, that, consistent with this Ordinance, has received approval from the County for the use of Golf Carts. Note: just because a road is maintained or owned by the county doesn't mean that it is a road designated for Golf Cart use. A road that has been approved for golf cart use will have appropriate signage and or pavement markings to indicate that such vehicle use is allowed or prohibited as applicable.

Generally the yellow and black sign portraying a golf cart and the words "Share the Road" under it is one type of sign to indicate a road has been approved for golf cart use. This ordinance can be enforced in gated communities so long as there is a Traffic Enforcement Agreement in place.

- **Designation Process**

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (5A-D)

- SIMPLIFIED: An applicant submits an application to the St Johns County Engineer who in turn will review the application and have a traffic study done of the road to determine if it will be safe for golf carts to be operated on the road listed in the application. The Engineer will either approve or deny the application.

***Golf Carts Defined:**

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (3.I.): A golf cart is a motor vehicle that is designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes and is NOT capable of speeds greater than 20 mph.

Where can they be driven?

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (5.i.): Golf carts can only be operated on designated roads that have a speed limit NOT greater than 25 mph. Note: Golf carts may cross roads that have speed limits greater than 25 mph from and to a designated road whose speed limit is 25 mph or less.

Who can drive them?

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (6.G.) & (6.K.): Golf carts can only be operated by persons 14 years of age or older, but do not require a driver to be licensed in order for them to be driven however, require the driver to have photographic identification. (State/Military ID, School ID, Company ID, Passport ID will suffice)

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (6.L.): Night restriction: Juveniles 16 years of age and younger who do not hold valid driver's license may not operate a golf cart on designated roads from 11pm-6am.

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (6.M.): Night restriction: Juveniles 17 years of age who do not hold valid driver's license may not operate a golf cart on designated roads from 1am-5am.

When can they be driven?

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (6.F.): In addition to the above, if the golf cart is to be driven on designated roads during darkness then it must be equipped with headlights, brake lights, turn signals and a windshield. If the cart is being used on a multi-use path then it must also be equipped with a horn.

What equipment is required for the golf cart?

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (6.N.): Golf carts must be equipped as follows: Efficient brakes & steering. Safe tires, rearview mirror, reflectors in the front and rear.

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What is a Multi- Use Path?

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (3.L.): Multi- Use Path defined: A sidewalk that has been approved by the county for use of golf carts & low speed vehicles or both and can be shared by bicyclists and pedestrians.

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (6.H.): The speed limit for golf carts on multi- use paths is 15 mph.

How many people can ride on a golf cart?

There is no requirement for seat belts, child restraints or limiting the number of passengers.

Additional charges for careless/reckless operation of a golf cart:

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (6.A.): No golf cart shall be operated in a reckless or careless manner upon any county road.

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (6.C.): No golf cart shall be operated on any sidewalk adjacent to a county or state highway except on a multi-use path.

Enforcement & Penalties:

Violations of this Co. Ord. may be prosecuted via county citation. The fines are as follows:

	<u>Uncontested</u>	<u>Contested</u>
First Violation:	\$75.00	\$93.00
Second and every violation thereafter:	\$150.00	\$168.00

Violations of this Co. Ord. may also be prosecuted as a 2nd degree misdemeanor with a fine of up to \$500.00 and or 60 days in jail

***Low speed vehicle defined**

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (3.J.): A low speed vehicle or LSV means any four-wheel vehicle that can travel no faster than 25 mph. Low speed vehicles can be golf carts that are modified to travel greater than 20 mph, but not more than 25 mph. These low speed vehicles however, are required to meet federal safety standards

Note: most low speed vehicles are golf carts in appearance however, they are a little faster and have additional requirements listed in 2018-42 (6.N.) & (6.O.)

Where can they be driven?

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (6.D.): A low speed vehicle may be operated on any county road with a speed limit of 35mph or less.

What equipment is required for the low speed vehicle?

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (6.O.): A low speed vehicle must be equipped with headlights, brake lights, turn signals, tail lights, reflectors, parking brakes, rearview mirror, windshield, seat belts and **VIN.**

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (6.P.): low speed vehicles are required to have a license plate and be insured the same as a car or truck.

Who can drive a low speed vehicle?

CO. Ord. 2018-42 (6.J.): persons driving low speed vehicles are required to have in their possession a valid driver's license.

Additional charges for low speed vehicle operation:

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (6.H.): The speed limit for low speed vehicles on multi- use paths is 15 mph.

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (6.A.): No low speed vehicle shall be operated in a reckless or careless manner upon any county road.

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (6.C.): A low speed vehicle may not be operated on a sidewalk adjacent to a state or county highway except a multi-use path.

Enforcement & Penalties:

Violations of this Co. Ord. may be prosecuted via county citation. The fines are as follows:

	<u>Uncontested</u>	<u>Contested</u>
First Violation:	\$75.00	\$93.00
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Violations of this Co. Ord. may also be prosecuted as a 2nd degree misdemeanor with a fine of up to \$500.00 and or 60 days in jail

***Mini Truck Defined**

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (3.K.): A mini truck is any four wheel, reduced dimension truck that does not have a NHTSA truck classification, with a top speed of 55 mph, and which has headlights, brake lights, turn signals, tail lights, reflectors, parking brakes, rearview mirror, windshield and seat belts. (They are generally used by landscapers).

Who can operate a mini truck?

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (6.J.): Persons operating a mini truck must have in their possession a valid driver's license.

Where can mini trucks be driven?

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (6.D.): A mini truck may be operated on any county road with a speed limit of 35mph or less.

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (6.E.): A mini truck cannot be driven on a sidewalk or multi-use path

Additional charges for mini truck operation:

Co. Ord. 2018-42 (6.A.): No low speed vehicle shall be operated in a reckless or careless manner upon any county road.

Enforcement & Penalties:

Violations of this Co. Ord. may be prosecuted via county citation. The fines are as follows:

	<u>Uncontested</u>	<u>Contested</u>
First Violation:	\$75.00	\$93.00
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****Subdivisions that have designated roads approved for golf cart use ****

Subdivision

Effective Date

- Marsh Landing Country Club 4-24-12
- Sawgrass Country Club 6-27-12
- Six Mile Creek 1-29-12
- Cimarron 1-6-11
- St. Johns Golf & Country Club CDD 5-7-13
- Nocatee 11-5-10
- Palencia 12-16-13
- Southaven / Markland 6-27-17