

What is an Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV / Golf Cart?

Utility vehicle means any motorized vehicle manufactured and used exclusively for off-highway use which is more than fifty inches but no more than eighty inches in width, measured from outside of tire rim to outside of tire rim, with an unladen dry weight of three thousand five hundred pounds or less, traveling on no less than four wheels, to be used primarily for landscaping, lawn care, or maintenance purposes. RSMo 301.010(71)

Recreational off-highway vehicle means any motorized vehicle manufactured and used exclusively for off-highway use which is more than fifty inches but no more than eighty inches in width, measured from outside of tire rim to outside of tire rim, with an unladen dry weight of three thousand five hundred pounds or less, traveling on four or more nonhighway tires and which may have access to ATV trails. RSMo 301.010(50)

Golf cart means a motor vehicle that is designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes and that is not capable of exceeding speeds of twenty miles per hour. RSMo 304.034(3)

I already have my Off-Highway vehicle / UTV / Golf Cart, now what?

Missouri Revised Statutes, Section 304 and CFR 49, 571.500 of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration requires that all golf carts and off-highway / UTVs be equipped with, at a minimum: Headlights Front and rear turn signals Taillights Stop lights/brake lights Reflex reflectors: one red on each side as far to the rear as practicable An exterior mirror mounted on the driver's side of the vehicle and either an exterior mirror mounted on the passenger's side of the vehicle or an interior mirror Seatbelts installed to cross the lap portion of all passengers Headlights, taillights, and brake lights must emit light visible at night under normal atmospheric conditions on a straight, level, unlighted roadway at five hundred (500) feet. A windshield that conforms with the Federal motor vehicle safety standard on glazing materials (49 CFR 571.205). A Vehicle Identification Number

My Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV / Golf Cart, has those things, now what?

First, you will need to get your Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV/ Golf Cart evaluated for ordinance compliance at the Belton Police Department or your home (within the city limits) . The evaluation will check to ensure: The brakes and brake lights are operational. The parking brake (if equipped) is operational. The steering column is operational. The existence of rear view mirror(s). The existence of a flag (not less than thirty (30) square inches in area) extending not less than one (1) foot above the canopy of the vehicle or not less than seven (7) feet above the ground if the vehicle is not equipped with a canopy. The ATV / UTV And Golf Cart has not less than four (4) wheels. There is not less than two thirty-seconds (2/32) inch of tread depth remaining on each tire, there are no visible tire threads or cords showing and there is no visible rubber separation. You will pick up an Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV / Golf Cart evaluation application. Upon completion of the application, you will return it to the Belton Police Department where an Officer will complete the evaluation of ordinance compliance form. That paperwork will need to be in your Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV/ Golf Cart at all times when in use. The cost of the registration is \$15 and you will receive a registration sticker that must be placed on your Off-Highway / UTV / Golf Cart on the left rear bumper. Registration must be renewed each calendar year. If you plan to trailer your vehicle to the Belton Police Department for this compliance check, please call first to ensure a traffic officer is on duty to complete the form.

What is required by the City to complete the Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV / Golf Cart application?

The Belton Police Department will provide you with an application where you will need to provide: Basic identifying information (make, model, color, etc) Name and address of the owner of the vehicle Proof of financial responsibility/insurance

Do I need to title or register my Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV / Golf Cart with the state, like my car?

No. The ordinance does not require you to title or register your Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV / Golf Cart with the State of Missouri.

I'm registered, stickered and can drive my Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV / Golf Cart anywhere I want, right?

Not quite. Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV / Golf Carts and ALL motorized vehicles are still prohibited from sidewalks, or public trails and walkways that are reserved for pedestrians. Also, state law forbids Off-Highway Vehicles / UTV / Golf Carts from driving on a street or a highway with a posted speed limit greater than 35 MPH. However, you can still cross a street with a posted speed limit of up to 45 MPH, but the ordinance requires you to make such a crossing at an electronic traffic control signal (or stoplight) unless access to such an intersection is not available.

What laws apply to me while driving my Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV / Golf Cart?

All the same driving laws and rules apply to Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV / Golf Cart drivers that apply to the operation of a regular vehicle. You MUST have a valid driver's license to operate an Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV / Golf Cart on city streets. You also are prohibited from towing trailers, boats, jet skis, other objects, people or animals on public streets or the right of way in your Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV / Golf Cart.

What rules do Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV / Golf Cart passengers need to follow?

No driver is allowed to have a passenger under the age of 16 in the Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV / Golf Cart unless the driver is the legal parent or guardian of that passenger. ALSO, you are not allowed more passengers than seats in the Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV / Golf Cart. Finally, if your infant/child requires a safety seat or car seat in your regular vehicle, they are NOT ALLOWED in an Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV / Golf Cart.

Can I be pulled over by Police in my Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV / Golf Cart?

Yes. If an officer has a reasonable suspicion that you are breaking the law, they can initiate a traffic stop with a Off-Highway Vehicle / UTV / Golf Cart just as they would with a regular vehicle.