

- not more than two miles from the location where the NEV is usually parked and for transportation to or from a golf course.

A person is not required to register an NEV operated in compliance with Transportation Code, Sec. 551.304.

## 12.3 Golf Cart

Transportation Code, Sec. 551.401. Definitions.

*In this subchapter, “golf cart” means a motor vehicle designed by the manufacturer primarily for use on a golf course.*

Transportation Code, Sec. 551.402. Registration Not Authorized; License Plates.

- (a) *The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles may not register a golf cart for operation on a highway regardless of whether any alteration has been made to the golf cart.*
- (b) *A person may operate a golf cart on a highway in a manner authorized by this subchapter only if the vehicle displays a license plate issued under this section.*
- (c) *The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles:*
  - (1) *shall by rule establish a procedure to issue license plates for golf carts; and*
  - (2) *may charge a fee not to exceed \$10 for the cost of the license plate, to be deposited to the credit of the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles fund.*
- (d) *A golf cart license plate does not expire. A person who becomes the owner of a golf cart for which the previous owner obtained a license plate may not use the previous owner’s license plate.*

Transportation Code, Sec. 551.403. Operation Authorized in Certain Areas.

- (a) *An operator may operate a golf cart:*
  - (1) *in a master planned community:*
    - (A) *that is a residential subdivision as defined by Section 209.002(9), Property Code, or has in place a uniform set of restrictive covenants; and*
    - (B) *for which a county or municipality has approved one or more plats;*
  - (2) *on a public or private beach that is open to vehicular traffic; or*
  - (3) *on a highway for which the posted speed limit is not more than 35 miles per hour, if the golf cart is operated:*
    - (A) *during the daytime; and*
    - (B) *not more than five miles from the location where the golf cart is usually parked and for transportation to or from a golf course.*
- (b) *Notwithstanding Section 551.402(b), a person may operate a golf cart in a master planned community described by Subsection (a) without a golf cart license plate on a highway for which the posted speed limit is not more than 35 miles per hour, including through an intersection of a highway for which the posted speed limit is more than 35 miles per hour.*

Transportation Code, Sec. 551.4031. Prohibition of Operation on Highway by Municipality, County, or Department.

- (a) *A county or municipality may prohibit the operation of a golf cart on a highway under Section 551.403 if the governing body of the county or municipality determines that the prohibition is necessary in the interest of safety.*
- (b) *The Texas Department of Transportation may prohibit the operation of a golf cart on a highway under Section 551.403 if the department determines that the prohibition is necessary in the interest of safety.*

Transportation Code, Sec. 551.404. Operation on Highway Authorized by Municipality or Certain Counties.

- (a) *In addition to the operation authorized by Section 551.403, the governing body of a municipality may allow an operator to operate a golf cart on all or part of a highway that:*
  - (1) *is in the corporate boundaries of the municipality; and*
  - (2) *has a posted speed limit of not more than 35 miles per hour.*
- (b) *In addition to the operation authorized by Section 551.403, the commissioners court of a county described by Subsection (c) may allow an operator to operate a golf cart on all or part of a highway that:*
  - (1) *is located in the unincorporated area of the county; and*
  - (2) *has a speed limit of not more than 35 miles per hour.*
- (c) *Subsection (b) applies only to a county that:*
  - (1) *borders or contains a portion of the Red River; or*
  - (2) *borders the Gulf of Mexico and has a population of less than 500,000.*

Transportation Code, Sec. 551.4041. Equipment.

*A golf cart operated under Section 551.404 must have the following equipment:*

- (1) *headlamps;*
- (2) *taillamps;*
- (3) *reflectors;*
- (4) *parking brake; and*
- (5) *mirrors.*

Transportation Code, Sec. 551.405. Crossing Intersections.

*A golf cart may cross a highway at an intersection, including an intersection with a highway that has a posted speed limit of more than 35 miles per hour.*

Transportation Code, Sec. 551.403 allows golf carts to be operated:

- in a master planned community with a uniform set of restrictive covenants and a county or municipality-approved plat;
- on a public or private beach that is open to vehicular traffic; or

- on a road with a posted speed limit not more than 35 mph if operated during the daytime and the golf cart is driven not more than five miles from the location where it is usually parked for transportation to and from a golf course.

A golf cart may be operated in a master planned community without a Golf Cart license plate for which the posted speed limit is not more than 35 miles per hour, including through an intersection of a highway for which the posted speed limit is more than 35 miles per hour.

Transportation Code, Sec. 551.404, allows a city or certain county to authorize operation of golf carts on certain highways within the city's or county's boundaries. A city may authorize operation when the highway is within the boundaries of the city and the posted speed limit is 35 mph or less. Certain counties may authorize operation on county highways that are located in an unincorporated area of the county and the posted speed limit is 35 mph or less. The golf cart must be equipped with head lamps, tail lamps, reflectors, a parking brake, and mirrors. The counties that may authorize operation in an unincorporated area of the county must:

- border or contain a portion of the Red River; or
- border the Gulf of Mexico with a population less than 500,000.

Golf carts operated on highways where operation is authorized must display a Golf Cart license plate.

There is a one-time license plate fee of \$10, and there will be no expiration date for the license plate and no license plate sticker issued. The Golf Cart license plate is not proof of registration for operation on a public highway. Effective September 1, 2009, the TxDMV stopped titling and registering golf carts.

**Note: Issuance of Golf Cart license plates is done through the RTS Title Application event by selecting Non-Titled.**

## 12.4 Package Delivery Vehicles

Transportation Code, Sec. 551.452. License Plates for Package Delivery Vehicles.

- The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles may issue distinguishing license plates for a vehicle operated by a motor carrier for the purpose of picking up and delivering mail, parcels, and packages if the vehicle:
 
  - is a golf cart, a neighborhood electric vehicle, or an off-highway vehicle; and*
  - is equipped with headlamps, taillamps, reflectors, a parking brake, and mirrors, in addition to any other equipment required by law.**
- The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles by rule shall establish a procedure to issue the license plates to be used only for operation in accordance with this subchapter.*
- The license plates must include the words "Package Delivery."*
- The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles may charge a license plate fee not to exceed \$25 annually to be deposited to the credit of the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles fund.*

Transportation Code, Sec. 551.453. Limited Operation.

- (a) *A motor carrier may operate, for the purpose of picking up or delivering mail, parcels, or packages, a vehicle bearing license plates issued under Section 551.452 on a public highway that is not an interstate or a limited-access or controlled-access highway and that has a speed limit of not more than 35 miles per hour.*
- (b) *The Department of Motor Vehicles may not require the registration of a vehicle operated under Subsection (a) unless the registration is required by other law.*

Golf carts, NEVs, and off-highway vehicles (ATVs, ROVs, UTVs and sand rails) operated by a motor carrier for the purpose of picking up or delivering mail, parcels, and packages are eligible for Package Delivery license plates.

The license plate fee is \$25 annually, and NEVs pay registration fees in addition to the license plate fee.

Operation of the vehicle is limited to a public roadway with a speed limit of 35 miles or less, unless crossing on or through a road or street.

For operation in a subdivision or condominium, the Package Delivery vehicle must comply with any applicable rules adopted by the property owner's association that manages the subdivision or condominium.

For operation on all or part of a public highway allowed by a municipality or county, the Package Delivery vehicle must operate in the corporate boundaries of the municipality or unincorporated areas of the county with a speed limit 35 miles or less.

Initial issuance of the license plates must be purchased through the county tax assessor-collector's office. Renewal may take place at the county, online, or through a subcontractor.

## 12.5 Pocket Bike or Minimotorbike

Transportation Code, Sec. 551.353. Application of Subchapter to Pocket Bike or Minimotorbike.

*This subchapter may not be construed to authorize the operation of a pocket bike or minimotorbike on any:*

- (1) *highway, road, or street;*
- (2) *path set aside for the exclusive operation of bicycles; or*
- (3) *sidewalk.*

## 12.6 Motor Assisted Scooter and Minimotorbike

Transportation Code, Sec. 551.351. Definitions.

*In this subchapter:*

- (1) *“Motor-assisted scooter”:*
  - (A) *means a self-propelled device with:*
    - (i) *at least two wheels in contact with the ground during operation;*
    - (ii) *a braking system capable of stopping the device under typical operating conditions;*