



Catawba Island Township Police Department

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Attention !! Golf Cart Owners and Operators

Due to an increasing number of golf carts operating on the public and private roadways in violation of Ohio laws, the Catawba Island Township Police Department will be increasing enforcement of these laws, for the safety of all who use the roadways in the township.

Ohio law defines golf carts as motor vehicles, therefore, a golf cart may not be lawfully operated on public streets unless it satisfies the statutory requirements applicable to motor vehicles.

The following are some of the rules that apply to golf carts;

An operator's license is required to operate a golf cart. This includes operating a golf cart on private property open for vehicular travel. It is also a violation of law, if the owner of a golf cart allows an unlicensed person to operate the golf cart. The large number of young children operating golf carts on private property is not only unlawful, but carries with it a high potential for serious injury or death.

Golf carts operated on a roadway are required to be registered and display license plates, however, the registration and plates are only valid if the carts are used on the Lake Erie Islands, which does not include Catawba Island Township.

Ohio law requires motor vehicles to have minimum insurance coverage. This includes golf carts.

All applicable laws governing required equipment for motor vehicles, apply to golf carts. Some of these equipment requirements include, headlights, tail lights, turn signals, seat belts, brakes, horns, rear view mirrors, windshields and wipers. This equipment is not only required but must also meet the minimum standards set by the general assembly and the director of public safety.

Motor vehicles, and hence, golf carts, are not allowed to display a slow moving vehicle emblem.

We are greatly concerned for the safety of all occupants of golf carts and other vehicles on the roads. We hope that our increased enforcement of these laws will help prevent tragic and preventable crashes involving juveniles and adults alike. We ask that you help us with this effort by following the above laws.