



Golf Cart Use in Babcock Ranch

Babcock Ranch has become one of the fastest growing communities in the country. With this success, we need to remind our residents of certain rules to maintain a safe community. One of the benefits of living in Babcock Ranch is the ability to use golf carts to go to-and-from. The following are some reminders when you use your golf cart.

Charlotte County governs the use of golf carts via ordinance and approves the use of golf carts on certain roads within Babcock Ranch through various resolutions. This is a great benefit to our owners and increases the enjoyment and connectivity of our community. If you haven't had an opportunity to read the 'Golf Cart Policies' on the Babcock Ranch Community Independent Special District (District) page on the community website: (<https://fl-babcockranch.civicplus.com/165/Amenities>), here are a few important items to follow:



- Golf carts may only be operated on designated roads within Babcock Ranch.
- Individuals **may not operate** golf carts on sidewalks, bike lanes or unpaved trails.
- The minimum age to legally operate a golf cart in the State of Florida is 14 years old.
- All golf carts must be equipped with efficient brakes, reliable steering apparatus, safe tires, a rearview mirror, and red reflectorized warning devices in both the front and rear.

- Any golf cart that is operated on District roads between sunset and sunrise must be equipped with functioning headlights, brake lights, turn signals, and a windshield.
- Persons driving golf carts within the District shall comply with all applicable provisions of Chapter 316, Florida Statutes including, but not limited to, compliance with all traffic control devices.
- The new law that pertains to ‘No Texting while driving’ applies to golf carts also.
- A violation of the Charlotte County ordinance is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable pursuant to Chapter 318, Florida Statutes.
- The District recommends all golf cart operators obtain liability insurance and register golf carts with the District.
 - Registration:
 - ♣ The District requests that operators register golf carts by submitting a registration form. You can find the District’s Golf Cart Registration Form on the District’s website under Amenities / Golf Cart Policies & Registration.
 - ♣ The HOA office can process your registration and issue the numbered sticker.
 - Insurance:
 - ♣ Operators should obtain liability insurance insuring against personal injury and damage to property with limits of at least \$300,000 and provide a certificate of insurance, which must be renewed annually, with the District, Babcock Ranch Residential Association, Inc., Babcock Ranch Commercial Association, Inc. Babcock Ranch Town Operations, LLC, and Babcock Property Holdings, LLC, named as additional insureds.
 - ♣ Operators should provide such certificate of insurance to the District at the time of registration and refile updated certificates annually.
- Safety Recommendations:
 - Passengers and drivers should keep all body parts inside the golf cart while it is in motion.
 - Passengers should have both feet planted firmly on the floor while the golf cart is moving.
 - Passengers should sit with their right hip against the right arm of the seat.
 - Passengers should be aware of traffic conditions. A sharp, unexpected turn can throw a rider from the golf cart. On turns and fast straightaways, passengers should use their right hand to grasp the right arm of the seat.
 - Regularly check for safe operation of brakes, lights, steering, turn signals, and tires.
 - Make sure batteries are charged to good operating levels.
- Parking:
 - Golf carts may only park in designated parking spaces.
 - Golf carts may not park on sidewalks.
 - Golf carts may not block entrances to any building.
 - Be considerate, two (2) golf carts can fit in one parking space.
- Inspections:
 - Periodic golf cart safety inspections are held by the District.