

## **PSA for Spring Break 2022 at Lake Lawtonka and Lake Ellsworth**

- All golf carts must have permits issued by the city or an authorized permit distributor i.e., School House the golf cart.
- All golf carts must be inspected by a Lawton Police Lake Officer, or Lake Headquarters personnel (Misty or Juan). Carts will then be assigned a number to be displayed on both sides of the golf cart.
- “Quiet Time” at both lakes is 11 pm to 6 am. Recreational use of golf carts is prohibited during these hours per Lawton City Ordinance **19-6-602. A.**
- Loud music, loud parties, excessive noises, and generator operations are also prohibited during quiet time.
- Golf carts are subject to stops and inspections if they are observed to be in operation contrary to city ordinances or Oklahoma State statutes.
- Failure to comply with local and state laws will result in loss of privileges of using the golf cart until the cart is brought into compliance with city requirements.
- The goal of the Lawton Police Department is to promote safety first throughout the Independence Day weekend.
- If you have any questions about these requirements, or any other laws governing the lakes, please feel free to contact the Lawton Police Department at 580-581-3272.
- For all other questions about fees, registrations, or lake amenities please contact the Lawton Lake Division at 580-529-2663
  - **19-6-602 - Noise restrictions—Nuisances.**
  - **A. No land recreation vehicle shall be ridden on property owned by or under the jurisdiction of the city at and around Lake Lawtonka and Lake Ellsworth if the noise therefrom exceeds a street acceptable noise level or a noise level of ninety (90) decibels. No land recreation vehicle shall be operated from sundown until sunrise except on improved roadway areas and only if such operation is for other than recreational purposes.**
  - **B. No land recreation vehicle shall be operated or ridden so close as to constitute a nuisance to or in and around any picnic areas, resort areas, boat launching areas or areas that have been improved for use by persons engaged in picnicking or camping, or other areas containing signs prohibiting operation of such vehicles.**
  - **C. Appropriate officials of the city shall install signs designating the areas in and around which the operation of such land recreation vehicles is prohibited**
  - **19-6-604 - Careless operation of vehicles prohibited.**

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No person shall operate a land recreational vehicle in a careless, reckless, wanton or negligent manner without regard for the safety of persons or property or in such manner as to endanger life, limb, person or property, or as to interfere with the lawful movement of traffic or use of any established roadways.

**19-6-606 - Golf carts allowed and/or prohibited in certain areas.**

Three and four wheel golf carts, either gasoline or electrically powered, may be operated:

- (1) on city streets at Lake Ellsworth and Lake Lawtonka where the speed limit is 25 MPH or less,
- (2) on the non-paved areas surrounding the lakes that are designated for overnight camping, day use and or the sale of concessions, and
- (3) in the area designated in Section 19-6-603, under the following conditions:
  - A. A permit as required by Section 19-6-603 is obtained and includes the issuance of a three-inch identification number for all golf carts used at the lake areas. The identification number must be displayed on the left and right side of the golf cart and must be of a color that contrasts the color of the golf cart.
  - B. The operator of the golf cart must be age fourteen (14) or older.
  - C. The operator of the golf cart shall:
    1. Obey all speed all speed limits and comply with the rules of the road.
    2. Yield the right of way to pedestrians and human powered devices at all times.
  - D. The propulsion system has not been modified to allow the golf cart to exceed the manufacturer's recommended maximum design speed of the golf cart.
  - E. All golf carts must have, at a minimum, two headlights and one taillight, which are visible to vehicular traffic.
  - F. For purposes of this section, golf carts shall mean such motorized device as used at a golf course to transport people and golf clubs.
  - G. The operation of golf carts is prohibited in the primitive camping area known as The Ponds, located on the eastside of Lake Lawtonka, except on the roadway serving the area.

**Once a side by side is tagged and registered as a motor vehicle ALL the laws that apply to cars and trucks will now apply to that side by side.**

1. They must be tagged.
2. The operator must be a licensed driver at least 16 years of age
3. Insurance and registration will be required to operate the vehicle
4. The side by sides must stay on the improved road surfaces, including the highway. They will not be allowed to use the golf cart trails along the highway.
5. Operating the vehicle in a reckless manner and speeding will subject the operator to motor vehicle citations. Reckless driving is an arrestable offense and the side by side will be subject to impound.
6. Driving Under the Influence (DUI), Driving While Intoxicated (DWI), and Actual Physical Control (APC) are applicable to a side by side when they become registered as a motor vehicle and those offences will be as adamantly enforced in and around the lake properties as they are within the City of Lawton.