

Beech Fork State Park

Golf Cart Use Policy

The policy is for use at Beech Fork State Park only. Golf carts are restricted from use on any other West Virginia State Park, State Forest, or State Wildlife Management Area.

1. Golf carts must be registered with the park office before the golf cart may be operated. Registration will include an agreement for signature and a permit which must be kept on the cart and be visible by park officials at all times. Registration agreement will require the cart owner to accept all liability for use of the cart on park property and to ensure compliance with cart usage rules. Registration is required by the owner of the cart who must also be a current registered overnight camping guest. Identifying features of the golf cart must be provided at registration including: model and/or serial number, manufactures, color, and any distinguishing characteristics.
2. Golf carts may only be operated by persons possessing a valid and current automobile driver's license.
3. Maximum number of riders on a cart may not exceed the manufacturer's recommendation. Valid proof of manufacturer recommendation for total passenger exceeding two person on a cart must be provided at registration for the cart and/or any optional seat attachments.
4. Golf carts will not be operated or permitted on the main (double line) park road. Golf carts will not be operated in the cabin area, the boat lunch area, the day use/picnic area, and all other restricted areas except during approved parade times.
5. Golf carts may not be operated or used in the Lakeview Campground.
6. Golf carts are permitted inside the confines of the Four Coves Campground; however, carts must remain inside the camping loops during use.
7. Golf carts are permitted inside the Moxley Branch and Old Orchard Campgrounds. Carts must remain inside these areas and may access the park office/camp store using secondary camp loop roadways. Access through the grass to the park administration building, sidewalks and control station is not permitted. Golf carts must park in designated vehicle parking spaces while operator is at the administration building or control station.
8. Golf carts operated during low light conditions must be equipped with applicable lighting per Chapter 17C-15 of the W.Va. Code. Carts may not be operated during the park quiet hours of 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.
9. Cart use is not permitted on trails or lawn areas outside individual campsites.
10. Golf carts, due to being smaller in size, are not classified as motor vehicles and less damaging to turf than motor vehicle, will not be included in maximum number of vehicle restriction per campsite.

Penalties for failure to comply with these rules:

- 1st offense – Written/Verbal warning issued by park superintendent staff.
- 2nd offense – Revocation of cart permit for remainder of stay
- 3rd offense – Official citation issued by park superintendent staff.
- 4th offense – Eviction without refund from Beech Fork State Park Campground of cart operator and other campsite occupants as necessary to ensure that the situation does not repeat.
- 5th offense – Eviction of camping party without refund from Beech Fork State Park Campground for the remainder of the operating season.

To assist in accommodating the needs of golf cart users, Beech Fork State Park has increased the number of reservable sites in Old Orchard Campground from 24 to include all 49 sites. Additionally, all sites remain available for reservations in the Moxley Branch Campground. This will provide cart users an enhanced opportunity to gain reservations in areas where not only the bathhouse can be reached, but also the camp store, camper check-in, sewage dump station and park office.

To accommodate special requests made during the 2011 public comment period, Beech Fork State Park management will issue a total of five (5) no-cost parade permits during May – October 2012. These parade permits will be for no more than one hour in duration. Contact (Beech Fork) State Park Superintendent for details.

Effective April 1, 2012