

## Off-Highway Vehicles §551A.001 (All Terrain Vehicles, Recreational Off-Highway Vehicles, Sand Rails, and Utility Vehicles)

Authority of Operation	Operational Restrictions and Requirements				
	DL §521.021 <sup>A</sup> §551A.002(a) <sup>B</sup> §551A.033(b) <sup>C</sup>	Insurance §601.051 <sup>A</sup> §601.052(2-b) <sup>B</sup> §601.007 <sup>C</sup>	Equipment §551A.071 <sup>A</sup> §551A.052(b) <sup>B</sup> §551A.058 <sup>C</sup> §551A.057(a) <sup>D</sup> §547.703(d) <sup>E</sup>	Apparel §551A.072	Specifications of Operation
<b>Private Property</b>	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation code has limited applicability on private property</li> </ul>
<b>Public Off-Highway Vehicle Land</b> §551A.031	No <sup>B</sup>	No <sup>B</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brake, Muffler, and Spark Arrester<sup>A</sup></li> <li>• Headlight and Taillight at Night or Reduced Visibility<sup>A</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helmet, Eye Protection, and Seat Belts (if equipped); <b>or</b></li> <li>• Four Wheels, Roll Bar or Roll Cage, and Seat Belts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be operated in accordance with Chapter 29, Parks and Wildlife Code</li> <li>• Operator must hold a safety certificate, be under the direct supervision of a certified off-highway vehicle safety instructor, or be under the direct supervision of an adult who holds a safety certificate per §551A.031(b)</li> <li>• TPWD OHV Decal Required per PW §29.003</li> </ul>
<b>Public Beach</b> §551A.033	Yes <sup>C</sup>	No <sup>B</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brake, Muffler, and Spark Arrester<sup>A</sup></li> <li>• Headlight and Taillight at Night or Reduced Visibility<sup>A</sup></li> <li>• At Speeds ≤25 mph, Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem<sup>E</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helmet, Eye Protection, and Seat Belts (if equipped); <b>or</b></li> <li>• Four Wheels, Roll Bar or Roll Cage, and Seat Belts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operation permitted on a beach open to motor vehicle traffic</li> <li>• Operator must hold a safety certificate, be under the direct supervision of a certified off-highway vehicle safety instructor, or be under the direct supervision of an adult who holds a safety certificate per §551A.031(b)</li> </ul>
<b>Golfing or in a Master Planned Community</b> §551A.055	Yes <sup>A</sup>	No <sup>B</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brake, Muffler, and Spark Arrester<sup>A</sup></li> <li>• Headlight and Taillight at Night or Reduced Visibility<sup>A</sup></li> <li>• OHV License Plate<sup>B</sup></li> <li>• At Speeds ≤25 mph, Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem<sup>E</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helmet, Eye Protection, and Seat Belts (if equipped); <b>or</b></li> <li>• Four Wheels, Roll Bar or Roll Cage, and Seat Belts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Master planned community with restrictive covenants and an approved plat; <b>or</b></li> <li>• On a highway with a speed limit of not more than 35 mph, during daytime, not more than 2 miles from where it is parked, for transportation to and from a golf course</li> </ul>
<b>In a Municipality</b> §551A.053(a)	Yes <sup>A</sup>	Yes <sup>A</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brake, Muffler, and Spark Arrester<sup>A</sup></li> <li>• Headlight and Taillight at Night or Reduced Visibility<sup>A</sup></li> <li>• OHV License Plate<sup>B</sup></li> <li>• At Speeds ≤25 mph, Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem<sup>E</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helmet, Eye Protection, and Seat Belts (if equipped); <b>or</b></li> <li>• Four Wheels, Roll Bar or Roll Cage, and Seat Belts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When approved for operation in a municipality, may operate on a highway with a speed limit of not more than 35 miles per hour only within that municipality</li> </ul>
<b>In Unincorporated Areas of Certain Counties</b> §551A.053(b)	Yes <sup>A</sup>	Yes <sup>A</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brake, Muffler, and Spark Arrester<sup>A</sup></li> <li>• Headlight and Taillight at Night or Reduced Visibility<sup>A</sup></li> <li>• OHV License Plate<sup>B</sup></li> <li>• At Speeds ≤25 mph, Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem<sup>E</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helmet, Eye Protection, and Seat Belts (if equipped); <b>or</b></li> <li>• Four Wheels, Roll Bar or Roll Cage, and Seat Belts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When approved by certain specific counties, may operate on a highway with a speed limit of not more than 35 mph only within unincorporated parts of that county</li> </ul>
<b>Farming or Utility Work</b> §551A.057	Yes <sup>A</sup>	Yes <sup>A</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Headlights and Taillights Turned On<sup>D</sup></li> <li>• Orange Triangle Flag<sup>D</sup></li> <li>• At Speeds ≤25 mph, Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem<sup>E</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exempt per §551A.057(c)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daytime operation only</li> <li>• Not on interstate or limited-access highway</li> <li>• May not exceed 25 miles from point of origin</li> </ul>
<b>Law Enforcement</b> §551A.058	Yes <sup>A</sup>	No <sup>C</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brake, Muffler, and Spark Arrester<sup>A</sup></li> <li>• Headlights and Taillights Turned On<sup>C</sup></li> <li>• Orange Triangle Flag<sup>C</sup></li> <li>• At Speeds ≤25 mph, Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem<sup>E</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helmet, Eye Protection, and Seat Belts (if equipped); <b>or</b></li> <li>• Four Wheels, Roll Bar or Roll Cage, and Seat Belts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operated by peace officer, firefighter, ambulance, or EMS provider</li> <li>• May not exceed 10 miles from origin to destination</li> <li>• Used in connection with official duties</li> </ul>

### §551 and §551A Special Motorized Vehicles

Device	Treated as	DL §521.021	Insurance §601.051	LP	Specifications of Operation
<b>Class 1 Electric Bicycle</b> §664.001(1)	Bicycle	No	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motor assists <b>only</b> when rider is pedaling</li> <li>Top assisted speed of 20 MPH or less</li> </ul>
<b>Class 2 Electric Bicycle</b> §664.001(2)	Bicycle	No	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motor may assist without rider pedaling</li> <li>Top assisted speed of 20 MPH or less</li> </ul>
<b>Class 3 Electric Bicycle</b> §664.001(3)	Bicycle	No, but rider must be at least 15 on highway §551.107(c)	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motor assists <b>only</b> when rider is pedaling</li> <li>Top assisted speed between 20-28 MPH</li> <li>Must be equipped with speedometer §664.004</li> </ul>
<b>Motorized Mobility Device   Electric Wheelchair</b> §552A.0101	Pedestrian §552A.0101(b)	No	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not capable of speeds exceeding 8 MPH</li> </ul>
<b>Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Device   Segway</b> §551.201	Bicycle §551.202(d)	No	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required to operate on sidewalk, if available</li> <li>If no sidewalk, must be on a roadway with a speed limit of 30 MPH or less</li> <li>May be operated on a path set aside exclusively for bicycles §551.202</li> </ul>
<b>Motor Assisted Scooter</b> §551.351(1)	Bicycle §551.352(d)	No	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On highway with speed limit of 35 MPH or less</li> <li>City, county, or TXDOT may prohibit operations in the interest of safety</li> </ul>
<b>Pocket Bike or Minimotorbike</b> §551.351(2)	Off Road Vehicle	No	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not authorized to operate on any highway, road, street, bicycle path, or sidewalk. <b>Private property only.</b> §551.353</li> </ul>
<b>Neighborhood Electric Vehicle</b> §551.303	Passenger Car	Yes	Yes	Yes §502.040	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May be operated on a highway with a max speed limit of 45 MPH</li> <li>May not exceed 35 MPH</li> <li>City, county, or TXDOT may prohibit in the interest of safety</li> <li>At speeds of ≤25 mph, a slow moving vehicle emblem is required §547.703(d)</li> </ul>
<b>Neighborhood Electric Vehicle</b> §551.304	Golf Cart	Yes	No §601.052(a)(2)	No §551.304(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Master planned community with restrictive covenants and an approved plat; <b>or</b></li> <li>Public or private beach; <b>or</b></li> <li>Public highway with speed limit not more than 35 mph during the day and not more than two miles from parked location to and from a golf course</li> <li>At speeds of ≤25 mph, a slow moving vehicle emblem is required §547.703(d)</li> </ul>
<b>Golf Cart</b> §551.403	Golf Cart	Yes	No §601.052(a)(2-a)	<b>MPC ≤35 mph</b> No §551.403(b) <b>Not an MPC</b> Yes §551.402(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Master planned community with restrictive covenants and an approved plat; <b>or</b></li> <li>Public or private beach; <b>or</b></li> <li>Highway with speed limit not more than 35 mph during the daytime and not more than five miles from parked location to and from a golf course</li> <li>At speeds of ≤25 mph, a slow moving vehicle emblem is required §547.703(d)</li> </ul>
<b>Golf Cart – Within a Municipality</b> §551.404(a)	Passenger Car	Yes	Yes	Yes §551.402(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A municipality may allow operations on a highway within the city limits that has a posted speed limit of not more than 35 mph</li> <li>Golf cart must be equipped with headlamps, taillamps, reflectors, parking brake, and mirrors. §551.4041</li> <li>At speeds of ≤25 mph, a slow moving vehicle emblem is required §547.703(d)</li> </ul>
<b>Golf Cart – Within Unincorporated Parts of Certain Counties</b> §551.404(b)	Passenger Car	Yes	Yes	Yes §551.402(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Certain counties may allow operations on a highway within unincorporated areas of the county that has a posted speed limit of not more than 35 mph</li> <li>Golf cart must be equipped with headlamps, taillamps, reflectors, parking brake, and mirrors. §551.4041</li> <li>At speeds of ≤25 mph, a slow moving vehicle emblem is required §547.703(d)</li> </ul>