



LOW-SPEED VEHICLE SAFETY

Prepared by Chief Executive Office, Risk Management Branch
Loss Control and Prevention Section
3333 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1000, Los Angeles, CA 90010
Call (213) 738-2269 for additional information.



Accidents and injuries can result from the improper use of low-speed vehicles (e.g. golf carts). Operators should become familiar with the vehicle intended for use and should adhere to the specific manufacturer's operating instructions, warnings and/or guidelines.

Proper maintenance of low-speed vehicles should be performed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. A daily check should also be performed to ensure proper operation of the vehicles' lights, brakes, back-up alarms, horns, tire pressure, etc. Report any damage or maintenance needs to your supervisor immediately.

The following rules are intended to enhance the safe operation of low-speed vehicles:

- Reduce speed on walkways and in pedestrian areas (terrain, weather conditions, and the total weight of the vehicle will impact the speed at which you can safely drive the vehicle). Operate the vehicle in accordance with posted speed limits (if applicable).
- Do not operate the vehicle with more passengers than it is designed to carry (one seat per passenger). Occupants should wear their seatbelts (if available).
- Occupants must keep their arms and legs within the confines of the vehicle when moving.
- Never back up without looking to see what is behind the vehicle.
- Avoid turning when ascending/descending slopes.
- Stop the vehicle at all blind intersections/corners and sound the horn before proceeding. If a horn is not available, use the "creep and peek" method.
- Shift gears only when the vehicle has come to a complete stop.
- When not in use, the vehicle should be parked with the control lever in the "neutral" or "park" position. The key should be removed and the parking brake set.
- Pedestrians always have the right-of-way. If the vehicle is being operated on a sidewalk, the operator should either pull off of the sidewalk (if safe to do so) or stop until the pedestrians pass.
- Do not engage in any activity that involves the use of your hands for other than driving (e.g. cell phone use, eating, drinking, reading, etc.).
- Vehicles should be equipped with headlights, turn signals and brake lights. Headlights should be turned on (both day and night) when the vehicle is in use.