



Community Notification

SAFETY & PREPAREDNESS Recreation Paths & Golf Cart Use

(Issued 9/5/09)

BSLPOA Recreation Paths

It is great to drive down Cape Horn and see people along the recreation paths. Avid walkers, cyclists and golfers alike make use of this amenity. Eventually, it would be a benefit to enhance other major roads in BSL; but for now, we do enjoy what we have.

Members of your Board of Directors went to great lengths to secure the privilege of golf cart use on the paths. Since we are not a 'golf community', the Charlotte County Sheriff Office has the right and the duty to ticket and/or fine golf cart operators in Burnt Store Lakes. In the past, only warnings have been given; however, the community was reminded that golf carts are considered to be mechanized vehicles and are required to be outfitted and registered the same as any other vehicle such as your automobile or truck.

The County installed the recreation paths for the benefit of our community, and agreed to allow golf cart travel, with restrictions. The use of golf carts on the paths may occur when someone is traveling to or from the golf course adjacent to Burnt Store Lakes **only**. Golf carts must remain on the recreation path – and are not allowed to travel along Cape Horn or any other road or for social visits within the neighborhood. A golf cart is considered to be a mechanized vehicle and should not be operated by anyone without a valid operator's license, or anyone under age. Should you be traveling in your golf cart anywhere in Burnt Store Lakes, be sure to have your clubs in the back. The Sheriff can and will cite an operator for traveling on the roadway or violating traffic laws. Cart operators must remember that all rules of the road apply. When on the path, the cart operator must give-way and respect the rights of pedestrians, cyclists, or any other non-mechanized method of transport. Per the Sheriff's Office, if, for any reason, an accident should occur, the operator of the golf cart will be cited.

The use of golf carts in our community is a privilege and not a right. Carelessness or abuse will cause the privilege to be removed for all concerned.

Remember all – walkers, cyclists and cart drivers – we all need to respect each other and make way when necessary – the paths are there for all of us.

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