

Utility or Under-speed Vehicle Operation Information

- Ohio Revised Code Section [4511.215](#) allows a local government to authorize, by ordinance, operation of utility or under-speed vehicles on its streets.

Albany Village Council did recently amend Albany Village Code [Section 73.16](#) and has authorized the operation of certain Utility and Under-speed vehicles on Albany Village streets. ALL of the details adopted were done so while following Ohio law exactly as indicated below.

NO OTHER VEHICLE TYPES ARE PERMITTED UNDER THIS VILLAGE LEGISLATION.

- **Definitions.** ORC [4501.01](#) (VV) and (XX) defines the vehicles that are subject to the Albany legislation;
 - 1) (VV) "Utility vehicle" means a self-propelled vehicle designed with a bed, principally for the purpose of transporting material or cargo in connection with construction, agricultural, forestry, grounds maintenance, lawn and garden, materials handling, or similar activities.
 - 2) (XX) "Under-speed vehicle" means a three- or four-wheeled vehicle, including a vehicle commonly known as a golf cart, with an attainable speed on a paved level surface of not more than twenty miles per hour and with a gross vehicle weight rating less than three thousand pounds.
- **Requirements.** ORC [4511.215\(3\)](#) permits the operation on public streets or highways of only those vehicles that;
 - a) successfully pass the required vehicle inspection, [OAC 4501-30-02](#)
 - b) are titled in accordance with [Chapter 4505.06](#) of the Revised Code, and
 - c) are registered in accordance with [Chapter 4503.11](#) of the Revised Code.
- **SMV Emblem.** As provided in Ohio Revised Code Section [4513.11\(C\)](#), the use of the slow-moving vehicles (SMV) emblem shall be restricted to animal-drawn vehicles, and to the slow-moving vehicles specified in division (B) of that section operating or traveling within the limits of the highway. Its use on slow-moving vehicles being transported upon other types of vehicles or on any other type of vehicle or stationary object on the highway is prohibited.

If your vehicle is already titled and displays a valid registration then you are already permitted to drive on village streets however, if your vehicle is not properly registered, insured, and operating with proper safety equipment, you will be subject to citation just as you would be while operating any motor vehicle on any street or roadway in Ohio.



Utility or Under-speed Vehicle Inspection Information

- Following are the four steps you will need to complete in order to certify your utility or under-speed vehicle for operation on public roadways in the Village of Albany:
 - 1) Contact the Albany Police Department located at 5153 Alton Street, Albany, Ohio, or by phone at (740) 698-6127 to schedule your inspection. (*You may have your inspection completed by any Police agency that provides this service in Ohio*). The owner must also show a valid Ohio operator's license (driver's license) and proof of financial responsibility for the utility or under-speed vehicle at the time of the inspection.
 - 2) Items that will typically be checked during inspection ([Ohio Administrative Code 4501-30-02](#))
 - Brakes
 - Brake lights (2 lights)
 - Head lights (2 lights)
 - Tail lights (2 lights)
 - Warning devices / reflectors (e.g., turn signals, horn)
 - Steering mechanism
 - Windshield
 - Rearview mirror
 - Tires (in safe operating conditions)

Any obvious defects will also be inspected for safety.
 - 3) The Albany Police Department will contact you to schedule a time to inspect your vehicle. Your inspection fee of *\$25.00 (Twenty-five Dollars) includes one (1) reinspection in the event of failure of the first inspection. Once all inspection requirements have been met;
 - a) you will be given a signed Certificate of Inspection, and
 - b) the officer will affix a safety sticker to the windshield of your vehicle. ([OAC 4501:2-1-04](#)).
 - The sticker shall be displayed on the inspected vehicle only on the lower driver side of the front windshield, is not transferrable to a different vehicle, and must be kept clean and visible at all times. No person shall alter a sticker or possess a sticker that has been altered.
 - c) the Albany Police Department will maintain a log of all inspection sticker numbers and the vehicles they were issued to.
 - 4) Next, you will take your Certificate of Inspection and Proof of Ownership to any County Clerk of Courts Title Office in Ohio. Once they have verified that everything is in order, they will issue you a Certificate of Title.
 - 5) Finally, you will need to take your title to a Deputy Registrar office where you will be issued the license plate for your utility or under-speed vehicle. (*Proof of Insurance may be required*).

**The Village of Albany does not charge a local REGISTRATION fee to operate any motor vehicle on village streets. The required inspection fee is an administrative charge meant to cover the costs incurred by the Village such as police-officer time for the inspection, paperwork processing, and the cost of the actual inspection decal.*