



PRESS RELEASE

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Cramerton Elected Board Passes Utility Vehicle Ordinance

Cramerton Town Officials unanimously passed an ordinance on Tuesday that will allow utility vehicles to be operated on town streets. The ordinance, that becomes effective on Monday, July 18, regulates when and where the vehicles can be operated, who can operate them, and requires initial registration and annual renewal.

The North Carolina Legislature passed a law during their most recent session that allowed the town to enact the ordinance. Cramerton was the first community in Gaston County to pass such an ordinance. In October 2009 the Cramerton Board of Commissioners was the first within the county to pass an ordinance to allow the registration and use of golf carts on town streets. "The utility vehicle ordinance very closely resembles the golf cart ordinance that we have been working with for almost two years," said Cramerton Police Chief Greg Ratchford. "The Golf Cart Ordinance has worked well and we haven't encountered any issues since it was enacted. I don't anticipate the Utility Vehicle Ordinance to be any different," Ratchford said.

Only Cramerton residents are allowed to register and operate golf carts or utility vehicles within the town. Operators of either must possess a valid North Carolina driver's license. Both the golf carts and utility vehicles must be inspected by police personnel and the owner must possess valid insurance. Full text versions of both ordinances and registration forms can be obtained from the Cramerton Police Department website by visiting www.cramertonpd.org. Questions concerning either ordinance should be directed to the department's Code Enforcement Officer at 704.824.7964.