



# **Town of Ashburnham**

## **CEMETERY RULES**

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## **REGULATIONS**

**Effective January 1, 2007  
Main Street, Ashburnham, MA 01430**

## **FUNERALS**

- 1. All Orders for Monday Funerals must be received no later than 11:00 a.m. on the previous Saturday.**
- 2. No Funerals are allowed on: Sundays, Any Legal/Municipal Holiday and January thru March.**

## **INTERMENTS**

- 1. Twenty-four hour notice is required for all interments. Funeral Directors must have all orders for interments signed by the owner of the lot, or some responsible person and accompanied by necessary burial permit.**
- 2. A one piece concrete vault with a one piece cover is compulsory with all interments.**
- 3. Interment fees must be paid for in advance or by the Funeral Director at the time of the funeral and be accompanied by the usual burial permit and signed interment order before proceeding.**
- 4. The cost of interments include opening of grave, handling of casket, use of lowering device and greens, restoration of sod, removal of flowers, and permanent recording documents.**
- 5. The Cemetery department reserves the right to correct any errors that may be made by it, either in making interments, disinterments, or removal and shall not be held liable due to the failure of any device to operate normally, or conditions beyond our control, which may develop without our knowledge.**

## **PERPETUAL CARE**

- 1. Perpetual Care funds are a portion of money from the purchase of interment space that is placed in a restricted Trust Care Account where only the interest income can be used for cemetery operations, care and maintenance.**
- 2. Perpetual Care covers the maintenance of the surface of the lots and grave, mowing the grass, seeding, looming, and fertilizing when necessary, but does not include care of any kind of monuments, headstones, markers, or the likes, or to bushes, shrubs, or plants,**

## **FOUNDATIONS**

All monuments, headstones, markers, or the likes must be a foundation built by the Cemetery Department.

No orders for foundations will be take from May 20th to June 1st of any year.

## **MONUMENTS**

No monuments or markers will be placed without a memorial order.

Only one upright monument is allowed on a family lot, and it must be centered.

To avoid errors it is required that a sketch drawn to scale (unless otherwise permitted) showing design and complete inscription in detail, with all dimensions, be submitted in duplicate (one for the cemetery, one for the monument dealer) and that approval in writing be secured from the cemetery before the foundation for the memorial is installed.

So that all materials shall be in good taste, adding to the beauty of the cemetery, it is necessary that the cemetery officials retain authority to reject any plan or design for a memorial which, on account of size, design, or inscription, is unsuitable to the lot on which it is placed. If the plan for the memorial is rejected, - such rejection shall be made within 10 days of explanation given. Upon request, any rejected Application shall be promptly reviewed by the Cemetery Commissioners.

For the protection of all lot owners, it is necessary that persons erecting, cleaning or repairing memorials Obtain a permit and, in doing such work, comply with the reasonable directions of the cemetery. The persons or firms requesting such may be required to furnish satisfactory evidence of their ability to properly perform the work proposed.

On all single graves, only markers flush with the ground are allowed.

## **MEMORIAL REGULATIONS LISTED BELOW**

Single Grave - 1 Rush marker  
2'-0" x 1'-2" x 0'-4" max

Companion Graves - 1 Slant Face Memorial  
3'-0" x 1'-4" x 1'-2" max

Companion Graves -1 two piece upright

base 3'-0" x 1'-2" x 0'-8" max

dir 2'-6" x 0'-8" x 2'-0" max

Lot 3 Graves and larger -1 Memorial above ground

max length half width lot, width 1'-2", height 5'-0"

or as approved by Cemetery Commission.

## **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. The purchase of a lot and any other interment space give the purchaser the right of interment of human remains and the right to provide and approved memorial. The ownership of the land remains with the Town of Ashburnham and all lots and graves are subject to the general rules & regulations of the Cemetery.
2. The transfer of ownership of any grave or lot must be approved by the Cemetery Commissioners.
3. The employees will take reasonable care when mowing or trimming the grass, but neither the Town of Ashburnham, the Cemetery Commissioners, the Superintendent nor any employees attached to the Cemetery Department will be responsible for any damage to plants, shrubs, or monument, or pictures embossed on or attached to a monument.
4. Acting in the best interest of the Cemetery Department, the Superintendent shall have the authority to remove or transplant anything upon the lots or graves wherever or whenever he shall deem necessary.
5. A proprietor may plant flowers in front of, side of, and/or back of an upright monument only. The flower bed is not to exceed the length of the monument base, and a width of not more than twelve inches. Flowers placed on or near flat markers must be in proper containers above the ground which can be easily moved to facilitate grass mowing. All other planting is to be done only after the approval of the Cemetery Superintendent. Any planting done, not in accordance with these restrictions can be removed by the Cemetery Department.

6. Shrubs are to be maintained by the lot owner. They must be trimmed and cared for, or the Cemetery Department has the right to remove them.
7. Absolutely no trees are allowed to be planted in burial lots, No azalea, rose bushes or similar plants will be allowed.
8. The Cemetery Department is not responsible for any flowers or any other decorations placed on graves or lots by the owner that are lost or stolen,
9. All Christmas decorations, including wreaths, or other temporary arrangements and their containers will be removed from each lot by April 1<sup>st</sup>.
10. For the best interest and protection of the lot owner, memorials, even the temporary use of cement, artificial stone, composition, wood, tin or iron is not permitted.
11. Persons within the cemetery shall use only the avenues, road, walks and alleys, and no one is permitted to walk upon or across lots or lawn unless necessary to do so to gain access to one's own lot.  
The Cemetery expressly disclaims liability for any injuries sustained by anyone violating this rule.
12. The owner, keeper or any person in control of a dog shall be responsible for the prompt removal and proper disposal of any feces deposited by such dog upon any Town Cemeteries.

**Per Orders: Cemetery Commissioners**

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