



**TOWN OF
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
CEMETERY TRUSTEES**

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Cemetery Rules and Procedures

I. Authority

- A.** The following Rules and Procedures have been established by the Brookline Cemetery Trustees in accordance with the Cemetery By-Laws and RSAs 289 and 290 and are subject to change at anytime.
- B.** The Sexton, or his/her designee, is empowered and authorized by the Cemetery Trustees to enforce these Rules and Procedures.

II. General

- A. Hours:** The cemeteries shall be open from dawn until dusk. Unauthorized visitation outside of these hours shall be considered trespassing.
- B. Vehicles:** Any vehicle not involved in cemetery operations shall only drive on established cemetery roadways.
- C. Regular Maintenance:** All lots and non-lot areas within the cemeteries are maintained by the Town. Perpetual and General Cemetery Maintenance is limited to raking, mowing, and seeding lots, including reasonable and practical care of unsold areas of the cemetery. In no case shall the Town be responsible to maintain, repair, or replace any memorial, tomb, or mausoleum erected or placed upon a lot.
- D. Personal Conduct:** All persons within the cemeteries shall conduct themselves in a manner keeping with a hallowed space. Inappropriate behavior is prohibited; persons violating reasonable standards of behavior will be subject to removal.

III. Cemetery Lots

- A. Right to Inter:** Effective July 15, 2014, the “purchase” of a cemetery lot authorizes the owner the privilege or right to inter human remains within a lot’s boundaries. In order to qualify for a Right to Inter, an individual must either have lived in Brookline or be the child of an individual who lived in Brookline. Title of the underlying real estate remains with the Town. Upon completion of the “Right to Inter” form and receipt of payment, a copy of the “Right to Inter” will be sent directly to the purchaser.
- B. Lot Size:** A lot currently measures three (3) feet by ten (10) feet. The cost is \$300 per lot.

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- C. **Corner Markers:** Corner markers shall be placed at the four corners of the lot by the Sexton.
- D. **Transfers:** Any lot owner wishing to sell a lot must sell it back to the Town of Brookline for the original purchase price. No lot may be transferred or sold to another individual by any lot owner. Any exceptions to this rule must be approved by the Cemetery Trustees.

IV. Interments

- A. **Timing:** Interments shall occur at the discretion of the Sexton.
- B. **Cost:** A fee shall be paid directly to the Sexton for opening a grave. The fee is \$500 for a full grave (an additional \$100 fee may be assessed in the event of a winter burial) and \$100 for a cremation.
- C. **Proof of Ownership/Right:** The Sexton will verify ownership rights and necessary permits prior to burial.
- D. **Capacity:** A single Lot may contain one full vault burial or as many as four cremations.
- E. **Vault:** A sealed cement vault is required for all burials, except cremations.
- F. **Funeral Director Responsibilities:** The Funeral Director must present all burial documents upon arrival at the cemetery and may provide artificial grass, lowering devices, a tent, and any other materials or equipment associated with the burial ceremony.

V. Monumentation

- A. **Monuments:** No more than one upright monument shall be placed on a single lot. Monuments may cover more than one lot, if the lots are owned by the same family.
- B. **Individual Markers:** Any individual markers shall be set in the ground and must not project above ground level.

VI. Landscaping/Decoration

- A. Landscaping and decoration of lots shall be limited to living or artificial flowers and plants, small American, U.S. military service, or public safety flags, and other small objects. The Sexton has the right to remove any and all objects not deemed appropriate, without prior notification.
- B. If branches or roots of any tree or bush should become detrimental to any lot or to the cemetery, or pose an inconvenience to the maintenance and or visitation of the cemetery, the Sexton shall have both the duty and the right to remove any and all parts thereof without notification.
- C. A tree or bush may only be planted with the advance written consent of the Sexton.
- D. No curbing or fencing is permitted around or within a lot.

Adopted July 8, 2014

Amended October 6, 2014