

**Complete updated rules are available at the Town Clerks Office in the Town Hall.**

**And restated here:**

**Rules:**

You can purchase plots if you had established residency\* in town at some time in your life.

\*[residency means, having a residential address, registered to vote, owned property, or rented, for at least a year, or some other proof that would be recognized by proper residency.]

They must be bought in name and if purchased as "family" plots, cannot be re-sold to anyone other than back to the town for the price originally paid and not for the current price. (The intention is to avoid anyone from profit motives as this is a cemetery for townspeople and not a business.)

The original owner or legal next-of-kin, does have the right to allow a distant family member to be interred into an unused "owned" site.

Cremated ashes can go into sites owned and used without having to "buy" another plot.

Some of these rules can be waived due to special requests concerning unusual situations if in writing to the Cemetery Commission for consideration.

The opening and closing costs of the grave sites are priced through a bid proposal between a designated Contractor and the Town of Hatfield Cemetery Comm. and is on file in the Town Hall. The payment of this is through the Burial company and / or the Contractor.

The placement of a monument should be done by a qualified Monument company due to the fact that these are quite heavy and can fall over or settle too deep causing a somewhat dangerous situation over time. For any waivers to this rule, please inquire in writing to the Cemetery Commission.

For flat monuments, they must be raised at least 4 inches due to build-up of grass and settling into the ground thereby being lost forever.

The removal of flowers will be the responsibility of the family or the Contractor upon the closing procedure.

Plantings will now be limited to flowers and no longer will we allow trees (as in evergreens) or shrubs due to the root systems affecting the other monuments as well as being a trimming problem in future years. If put in, we reserve the right to remove them at any time.

Artificial plants or flowers will be limited to the non-mowing times of year (Oct. 1 to April 1) due to the difficulty of mowing and trimming.

Only flags approved by the Historical, Veterans, or Cemetery Comm. will be allowed.

This is not a place to bring pets to do their job! Please respect the burial grounds as just that.

Metal detectors are not allowed as this is also not a hobby place. There is a waiver if someone has lost something and is unable to find it...please notify the Town Hall if this situation arises.

If you leave any memorabilia, it is possible that someone might take it, or it could create a dangerous situation for a mower blade or person in the area of mowing....please use common sense. If in doubt, please contact the Cemetery Commission.

Since we have no maintenance department, please discard your trash, old plantings, old flowers, picnic items, etc. into the barrels provided. If there are no barrels, PLEASE remove these items in the same way you brought them here.

We reserve the right to trim or remove any plantings that become overgrown, unsightly, unkempt, or affecting the maintenance (i.e: mowing).

The Hill Cemetery is closed for burial as it is full. There are 4 cemeteries in the various sections of town that have availability for townspeople. Please purchase them in the Town Hall weekdays at your convenience.

The cost of Plots will change from time to time as the Cemetery Commissioners deem necessary.

The base of Monuments should be limited to 2 feet wide by 4 feet long (this is to keep the mowing costs within reason as well as any damage from the mower. We do encourage creativity in choosing monuments however, any that make a mockery of the Institution of a Cemetery, will not be allowed! If there is any question as to this

please inquire in writing, before any moneys are spent, to the Cemetery Commission.

There have been a lot of repairs made these past few years - please respect this effort by helping to maintain these premises. The sheer age of these monuments make them quite fragile. Do not lean on them, sit on them, or otherwise cause damage to them. If an accident happens, please contact the Town Hall and we can do repairs. If there is malicious damage, we will prosecute to the full extent of the law. If you witness this, please contact the Police department and the Town Hall.

Stone rubbings are not allowed at all as they slowly destroy the words on these monuments, some of which are already faded.

We limit Family Plot purchases to 10 plots without a special waiver from the Cemetery Commission.

There are times (rare as they are) that an actual burial has to be delayed until Spring (due to a very harsh Winter) or when the weather allows. From time to time, you will see in the papers that there is a Funeral, however it also states that "burial will be in the Spring or at a later time". This is out of safety, ground conditions, and respect for others. We hope you can understand this yet, we will always do our best to accommodate families in need.

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Remember, you have purchased the right to use these Plots. The ownership of the Cemetery and its property is the Town of Hatfield.

These Rules as well as the rules for Monument Companies and Contractors (Attachments A & B) are part of this Commissions Ruling are subject to change and are available at the Town Clerk's office in the Town Hall.

Approved

11/1/02

Town of Hatfield

Cemetery Commission

These Rules are subject to Change Without Notice but will be Posted according to Law.

Also, see Attachments A & B

