

SEASONAL RULES FOR GRAVE SITE DECORATIONS

Growing season

For the purposes of this section, the term **growing season** shall mean the period each year commencing April 15 - October 15. During the growing season, the following grave site decorations are permitted:

- a.) Natural flowers, provided such flowers are placed in pin type or other approved vase. Permanent vases are prohibited. Permanent upright vases installed prior to the adoption of these rules and regulations may continue to be used, but must be lowered to ground level during the non-growing season
- b.) Potted plants, provided that such plants are positioned close to the front of the marker and not more than one six inch (6") or eight inch (8") diameter pot is placed at any grave site.
- c.) Boxed plants, provided that such plants are placed in wood or plastic boxes not larger than fifteen inches (15") by eight inches (8") and not more than one boxed plant is placed at any grave site.
- d.) Flags, provided that flags may be placed not more than three days prior to Memorial Day, Independence Day and Veteran's Day and are removed no later than the first business day thereafter.
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e.) Hinged veterans emblems set flush with the ground, provided that such emblem shall be set in the upright position not more than three days prior to Memorial Day, Independence Day and Veteran's Day and shall be returned to the lowered position not later than the first business day thereafter.

Boxes and pots shall be placed on the grass and shall be placed in front of, and as close as possible to the memorial. Artificial flowers are prohibited during the growing season.

Non-Growing Season

For the purpose of this section, the term non-growing season shall mean the period of each year prior to March 1 and/or after November 15. During the non-growing season artificial flowers, placed in stands, approved vases, pots or boxes in the same manner as provided for natural plants in boxes and pots hereinabove, shall be permitted decorations for grave sites. Further, one artificial wreath shall be permitted at each grave site, provided that the wreath is 30" in diameter and is permanently attached to a stand or easel. Evergreen blankets and other winter type decorations are prohibited.

Spring and Fall Clean-Up

- a.) The period from March 1 to April 14 shall be used for maintenance and grounds keeping purposes to prepare for the growing season. All non-growing season decorations shall be removed by the City on or after March 1.
- b.) The period of October 16 to November 15 of each year shall be used for maintenance and grounds keeping purposes to prepare for the growing season. All growing decorations shall be removed on or after October 16.



CITY OF WEST CHICAGO CEMETERY RULES, REGULATIONS AND OWNERSHIP FOR CITY OF WEST CHICAGO CEMETERIES

OWNERSHIP OF GRAVE SITES

The person(s) named in the original deed or indicated on the City's records, as the owner(s) of any grave site shall be deemed to be the owners(s) of such grave site. In the event that any such owner of any grave site is deceased and interned elsewhere, the City will follow the rules of descent and distribution for the state of Illinois duly enacted and effective on the date of such owner's death. Where the owner of a particular grave site cannot be determined through an original deed or through the City's records, the determination of ownership shall be made by the sexton, whose decision shall be final. The sexton shall require any claimant to such ownership to substantiate his or her claim, to provide notice to potential adverse claimants by publication and where applicable, by mail and to indemnify the City against any costs, claims, losses, demands, damages, expenses and/or liability arising out of such adverse claims, including without limitation, reasonable attorney's fees and litigation costs.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Hours of Operation

The cemeteries shall be open to the public from dawn to dusk each day.

Work Within the Cemeteries

All grading, landscape work, memorial installation, memorial repairs or improvement of any kind within the cemeteries, shall be performed by the City Sexton, Public Works Director or their designate.

Prohibited Acts

It is unlawful for any person to commit any of the following acts within ANY cemetery:

- 1.) To injure or deface any of the trees, fences, bridges, walks, fireplaces, buildings, shrubs, plants, turfs, grass lanes or posts or attach any matter or printed matter or placards thereon.
- 2.) To destroy, mutilate or damage in any manner any marker, flag or other grave decoration in the cemetery, or to enter the cemetery grounds with the intention of committing such act or of interfering with any grave.
- 3.) To pick, injure or destroy any of the flowers or shrubs or to remove the same.
- 4.) To drive or operate any vehicle at a speed in excess of ten miles per hour.
- 5.) To permit a dog to run at large or to walk any such dog on a leash through or in any City cemetery.
- 6.) To have, serve, sell, give away or drink any alcoholic beverage.

DECORATIONS FOR GRAVE SITES

1.) Decoration regulations exist to protect each grave site owner. Decorations not in conformity with these regulations will be removed by the City and discarded. The City does not warrant or guarantee against the damage, loss or destruction of decorations and all risks associated with the placement of decorations shall remain with the person(s) placing the same.

- 2.) All grading, landscape work, improvement of any kind, care of burial space, planting, trimming, cutting or removal of trees, shrubs or herbage of any kind, opening and closing of burial spaces, internment and disinterment or removal of bodies, construction of all foundations and installations of all vases and memorials shall be done only by the Sexton, Public Works Director or their designate.
- 3.) Not more than one decoration shall be placed on grave site at any time. In the case of monument lots, not more than one decoration shall be placed on the lot at any time regardless of the number of individual graves on the lot.
- 4.) Decorations shall remain on the graves only as long as their appearance is presentable, as determined in the sole discretion of the Sexton, Public Works Director or their designate. Decorations which become unsightly or withered shall be removed and discarded.
- 5.) Outlining graves or memorials in any fashion, including but not limited to, metal frames, stones and/or stripping with sod is prohibited.
- 6.) Growing shrubs and/or bushes is prohibited at all times.
- 7.) All forms of decorations not specifically hereunder are prohibited and shall be removed, including but not limited to jars, bottles, statuary, cans, globes, shells and other ornaments.