

# Rules and Regulations

Forestvale Cemetery District  
Helena, Montana  
(Revised June 9, 2017)

The following Rules and Regulations are subject to change at any time at the discretion of the Trustees of the Cemetery District. No such change shall operate against lots sold previous to such change or changes. However, yearly maintenance and cemetery improvements decided by the Cemetery Trustees shall be in effect for all grave owners.

## **Rule 1. Records**

The record of the title kept at the office of the cemetery district is the evidence of title of the proprietors which is recognized by the cemetery district. If a person receives a grave by transfer, he/she should at once send the deed to the cemetery district office for proper recording. A new certificate will then be issued.

## **Rule 2. Certificates of Title**

Certificates of Title shall be issued to all grave buyers. Any transfer of title can be made by the surrender of the original certificate, and the issue of a new certificate to the new owner.

## **Rule 3. Graves**

Each grave is full described on the plat of the cemetery district, and when necessary, its corners will be marked in a substantial manner.

Fencing enclosures of any grave or lot will not be permitted. The grade of all lots will be determined by the trustees of the cemetery district.

No trees or shrubs shall be planted on any grave without the consent of the trustees of the cemetery district or the sexton.

If any trees or shrub situated on any grave shall become detrimental to any adjacent grave or avenue, it shall be the duty of the trustees to have such trees or shrubs removed as in their judgement is necessary.

It is the policy of the cemetery district that one grave site have but one full burial, or one full burial with one ash burial, or two ash burials.

## **Rule 4. Tombs and Mausoleums**

Tombs and mausoleums may be constructed only in such places and in such style as may be approved by the trustees of the cemetery district. Complete plans and specifications for tombs and mausoleums must be furnished to the trustees for final approval before construction. No bodies shall be placed therein, unless in sealed caskets, with the caskets placed in hermetically sealed compartments in a manner satisfactory with modern methods used to secure perpetual enshrinement.

### **Rule 5. Monuments**

Only one monument with a cement base will be allowed upon a grave or an approved subdivision thereof. A four inch apron around each monument at the grass line shall be required to insure easier perpetual care. The monument must be placed in the space provided, as determined by the cemetery rules and regulations.

### **Rule 6. Imperishable Material required**

No monument or headstone or a portion of a vault or tomb above ground shall be constructed of a perishable material that shall be deemed likely to become unsightly with time. Wooden markers are forbidden.

### **Rule 7. Governing work done in the cemetery**

As a guarantee of good and proper work and protection to an and all grave owners, as well as the general welfare of the cemetery, the trustees of the cemetery district and the sexton reserve the right to regulate all work done in the cemetery under the following conditions:

1. Grave repair or monument repair or stone cleaning and by the owners of each grave must be approved by the sexton or an authorized memorial supplier or the trustees of the cemetery district. Cleaning of monuments by the owners thereof is accepted.
2. Foundations for markers will be excavated for and built, taking into consideration of the weight and displacement of the monument. The trustees of the cemetery district reserve the right to require larger foundations if the weight of the monument requires.
3. All monuments must be installed by reputable monument suppliers, subject to the rules of the cemetery district.
4. The trustees of the cemetery district reserve the right to curtail all construction of monuments during winter when frost or snow conditions prevent first class work.
5. Workmen shall not scatter tools or materials over adjoining lots when excavating on a grave for burial.
6. Contractors and others having work to do in the cemetery must make their business known to the sexton or the trustees of the cemetery before proceeding with their work.
7. All workers in any capacity within the cemetery grounds are subject to the control of the sexton or the trustees of the cemetery district.

### **Rule 8. Markers**

Markers or monuments on all graves must be set to offer the least possible obstruction to the proper care and esthetics of the area.

### **Rule 9. Flowers**

Plastic or polyester flowers or decorations must be removed when faded, disintegrated, or blown by the wind to other graves. If a lot or grave remains uncared for during several seasons, it shall be the decision of the maintenance workers to remove all the objectionable material, plastic or synthetic flowers, glass and metal containers. All withered, frozen, or dead flowers may be removed at any time of the year.

### **Rule 10. Internments**

No internments can be made without proper order. Ashes may not be interred without the proper notification and registration. There will be no exceptions, even if the grave is already paid for. Such order shall be filed at least 24 hours before internment. No internments of caskets or ashes may be made until all fees charged or graves paid for or guaranteed by a responsible party or mortuary to the trustees of the cemetery districts. There will be an extra charge for burials/funerals held on a Saturday. There will be no burials/funerals on any Sunday. No internments on any grave may be made without the permission of the grave owner, their assigns, or heirs.

Forestvale Cemetery requires concrete liners for all below ground burials. Concrete liners must be purchased from the Forestvale Cemetery District and installed by Forestvale employees.

Tents and other temporary structures for a funeral service cannot encroach on an adjacent grave. Such structures are to be removed on the same day following completion of the service.

### **General Rules**

1. The general care of the entire grounds of the cemetery is assumed by the trustees of the district, and their assigns.
2. The grounds will be opened to visitors at all reasonable daylight hours. Any orderly person may visit during these hours.
3. Minors under the age of eighteen years may not appear on the grounds without the company of an adult. There will be no exceptions.
4. Firearms are not permitted on the grounds except at Military funerals.
5. Vehicles of all kinds are limited to a speed of 15 MPH.
6. Motorcycles are not allowed on the Cemetery grounds.
7. Any destruction by juveniles or others resulting in necessary repair of monuments or other properties on the cemetery grounds shall be the responsibility of the perpetrators, and all financial charges for the repair shall be made by them.
8. Visitors should not remove anything from the cemetery grounds that does not belong to them.
9. Research in locating a gravesite may be made by anyone only during regular business hours.
10. Dogs, or pets, are not allowed on the cemetery grounds. Horseback riders are not allowed on cemetery grounds.
11. Automobiles are not allowed on the grass, and all vehicles are restricted to the roadway, unless by a cemetery worker in the performance of his/her duties.
12. Payments for lots, grave openings, and services provided by the cemetery shall be paid in full within thirty days, collection fees and interest will be charged on all past due accounts. Law suits for the collection of monies due from any party may be instigated by the cemetery district board of trustees. Failure to adhere to the thirty day rule will prevent any party of further use of the cemetery after the proper notice.