

CEMETERY RULES AND REGULATIONS

LEE, NH

Three Cemetery Trustees are elected to oversee and maintain Lee Hill Cemetery, Old Parish Cemetery and all Private Trust cemeteries within the Town of Lee. Lee Hill Cemetery (est. 1877) located across from the Town Hall on Route 155 is presently the only public graveyard open for interments.

These Rules and Regulations apply not only to Lee Hill Cemetery but to every burial within town. All burials must be registered and are subject to the rules and regulations adopted by the Cemetery Trustees and are subject to the Town of Lee Zoning Ordinance. Burial grounds are controlled through the State of New Hampshire laws regulating the burial of human remains: RSA 289.

PURCHASE OF BURIAL RIGHTS

The death of a loved one is a difficult time for all involved. The Cemetery Trustees recommend that the purchase of a burial site be tended to in advance.

A deed, signed by the Cemetery Trustees, the Board of Selectmen and notarized is recorded with the Town Clerk. It should be understood that one does not purchase the actual burial site but the right to be buried there. Purchase of burial sites is restricted to current or past Lee residents, the deed holder, immediate family, relatives or friends, to be used as a cemetery lot and for no other purpose. If a buyer decides not to use a burial site, ownership may be signed over to a relative OR must be resold to the Town of Lee for the dollar amount of the original purchase plus any unused accrued interest. RSA 290:24 also provides that if the deceased has designated a person to assume ownership of the cemetery lot or plot in a written and signed document, ownership passes to that person subject to the Rules and Regulations adopted by the Cemetery Trustees. All purchase of lots or graves is made directly through the Cemetery Trustees.

INTERMENTS AND REMOVAL

No interment shall be permitted in any lot or grave until complete financial arrangements have been made for said lot or grave. No monument or marker shall be erected until full payment for said lot or grave has been made.

Arrangements for interment must be made thirty-six (36) hours in advance with the Cemetery Superintendent. For interment, directions must be given and all fees prepaid to the Cemetery Superintendent. Fees for interment may be learned upon request; such fees include the opening and closing of graves and associated charges.

All full body burials graves must be lined with a concrete box or vault. All cremation burials shall be in an appropriate vault or non-biodegradable designated cremation urn. Sectional grave boxes or wooden boxes are not permitted.

The individual requesting interment is to provide an Order of Interment before burial. A burial permit must be received prior to interment. No disinterment or removal of remains will be permitted except (a) with the written consent of the lot owner or a member of his/her family or (b) with the permit required by the laws of the State of New Hampshire.

MONUMENTS AND MARKERS

The Cemetery Trustees and Superintendent do not wish to interfere unnecessarily with the lot owners selection of monument, however, the right is reserved to forbid and/or remove any monument deemed objectionable by the Cemetery Trustees.

To the above end, it is required that all plans for monuments and markers be submitted to the Cemetery Trustees and Superintendent for approval before contracting for same. The exact site positioning of foundations and gravestones will be determined only after consultation with the Cemetery Superintendent and will conform to the regulations adopted by the Trustees. Only one marker at a grave and one monument per lot is allowed. All new flush markers must be set level with the turf and not on a concrete foundation. No cement work will be used encircling a flush marker. Corner stones are permitted as long as they are flush with the turf to facilitate mowing. Trustees have discretion to make exceptions to grave regulations based on specific circumstances.

All foundations for monuments are to be cleared through the Cemetery Superintendent.

CEMETERY MAINTENANCE

The amount paid at the time of purchase of the lot or grave is deposited in a trust fund and the interest earned is used to mow the grass and to provide essential care and maintenance for each plot. Water spigots and trash cans are available at the cemetery.

Planting trees and shrubs is not permitted. In the case of existing trees and shrubs, the groundskeepers will prune or trim them and take appropriate steps when they interfere with mowing, become unsightly or pose a potential problem with adjoining grave sites.


All containers, ground plantings and decorative items should be adjacent to the main monument or headstone, being placed there at your own risk. Those flowers, containers or decorative items placed at individual flush ground markers are to be removed 30 days after Memorial Day to allow summer mowing.

Cut flowers, plastic or silk flowers or decorations left at a grave must not interfere with the maintenance of the site or be allowed to become unattractive. The Cemetery Superintendent will remove such items at their discretion when they become unsightly or hinder the ability to keep the cemetery grounds attractive. Glass containers are not permitted. Items removed by the Cemetery Superintendent will be

placed next to the maintenance shed for pickup by owners unless damaged or not of further use. All decorations to be removed prior to closing of cemetery for winter.

The cemetery will be open from dawn to dusk. The gates are open to motor vehicles and burials starting April 1st unless the Superintendent determines excessive muddy conditions would do damage to roadways or grounds. Unless an early snowfall warrants, the cemetery will remain open to motor vehicle access until December 1st. Please note these restrictions are for motor vehicle access only – you may enter on foot year round.

Because a cemetery is a place sacred to the memory of those interred and a place to seek comfort by those who visit, an atmosphere of respect is to be maintained at all times.

Peter Hoyt, Chairman 

Donna Eisenhard, Bookkeeper 

Jeff Liporto 

Cemetery Trustees

Adopted: September 21, 2022