

NASHVILLE CITY CEMETERY
RULES AND REGULATIONS

As per ordinance 76-215, duly signed, the Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation conveys the right of burial or interment of human remains on each lot by issuance of a certificate of ownership thereto subject to the rules and regulations that have been or may be adopted by the Board of Parks and Recreation for governing the cemetery. It shall be used for no other purpose than the interment or burial of the human dead as authorized by the holder of the title to the interment rights or the owner of a record of the lot involved by written order duly signed.

By these rules, the Board of Parks and Recreation assigns all cemetery administrative responsibilities to the Metropolitan Historical Commission.

OWNERSHIP

Persons owning lots in partnership are required to file written instructions at the office of the Metro Historical Commission designating which part of the lot shall be used.

No transfer or assignment of any lot, or part thereof, or interest therein is valid without the consent of the Board of Parks and Recreation. Persons will not be recognized as lot owners unless their names appear as such upon the records of the cemetery. All transfers of ownership shall be subject to a reasonable charge which is intended to cover the administrative cost incurred by the Metropolitan Government relative to any transfer of the right of interest in the cemetery.

The sale or transfer of any grave site or lot by the owner or purchaser shall not be binding upon the cemetery unless such transfer shall first be duly approved in writing by the properly authorized representative of the Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation.

Any time a lot is sold, subdivided, transferred or assigned, the owner must have the lot surveyed by a qualified surveyor to determine the available space. The survey document must be placed on file with the Metro Historical Commission.

Lots cannot be subdivided for resale by the owner without written approval of the Metro Board of Parks and Recreation. Metro Parks and Recreation reserves the right to determine the method by which a lot or portion of a lot may be transferred. If transfer is by certificate, the original must be returned to the Historical Commission and a new certificate will be issued to the new owner. This procedure is required in order that the Historical Commission may at all times have a complete and accurate record of all owners.

When a lot can be subdivided, a separate certificate for each subdivision must be issued.

Any and all transfers of any lot or interment rights whether by transfer or certificate or assignment or purchase contract are subject to all rules and regulations of this document which are now in full force and effect, or which may be hereafter adopted. The Metro Board of Parks and Recreation may refuse consent to a transfer or assignment of lots or graves as long as there is any indebtedness due to the cemetery, or if for any reason the transfer or assignment does not conform to the rules and regulations in force at the time of the transaction.

Lot owners who desire to authorize the privilege of future interments on their lots to others than those entitled to burial thereon must file such instructions with Metro Historical Commission in writing to be entered on the cemetery records. One not having a legal right thereto shall not be buried in any lot by written consent of the Metro Board of Parks and Recreation, the Metro Historical Commission, the owner of the record, or other persons entitled to consent thereto under the rules and regulations.

Upon the death of any owner or part owner of a lot, the surviving spouse, heirs, or next of kin of such decedent must file in the office of the Metro Historical Commission full information as to the survivors of such decedent and the proprietorship of such lot designating someone by name and address who will be in charge of said lot or part of the lot. Such records protect the rights of those claiming ownership in the lots and save time and trouble when future interments are ordered.

In the case of deceased lot owners whose descendants do not possess the certificate of ownership and whose wills do not provide specifically for the transfer of ownership, the descendants must provide proof of descendants and waivers of claim from other descendants who have equal legal claim.

INTERMENTS - DISINTERMENTS

No telephone orders for burial arrangements or grave locations will be accepted. The proper burial certificate required in all cases by the State Board of Health must be delivered to the Metro Historical Commission before any interment is made or any body deposited in any vault or tomb.

A vault is to be used for interments.

The work of interring and disinterring shall be done by licensed independent companies with arrangements and payments for same to be made by lot owners.

Arrangements for opening and closing graves must be made at least two (2) working days before the funeral.

Only one person will be interred in any one grave, except in the case of a parent and infant child buried at the same time, or two (2) infant children buried at the same time who may be interred in one casket in the same grave.

The rules shall apply to interment of cremated remains which shall be interred in proper spaces designated for graves.

No More than three (3) persons shall be buried in each 10 x 10 lot.

No interment shall be allowed without the consent of the Metro Historical Commission. The Historical Commission may refuse to allow an interment on any lot for which the ownership has not been certified.

Before a grave is opened for interment or disinterment, an order signed at the office of the Metro Historical Commission is required from the lot owner of record, someone duly authorized by the owner, or if the original purchaser is deceased than by his or her lawful heirs, next of kin, the assignee, or transferee of record.

No disinterment or removal will be allowed without the consent in writing of the lawful custodian of the body to be removed or the removal of bodies from the cemetery shall be done only upon written direction of the Metro Historical Commission.

Except in cases of urgent necessity, the Metro Historical Commission reserves the right to deny a permit for a funeral on a holiday. No interments, disinterments, or reinterments will be made on holidays.

All funerals will be subject to the direction and control of the Metro Historical Commission or one of their assistants in charge.

All workmen and builders on the cemetery grounds are subject to the control of the Metro Board of Parks and Recreation and must enter and leave the cemetery within the working hours of the cemetery employees.

Due to the age of the cemetery and the incompleteness of early records, it is possible that occupied graves are not marked. In such cases where the opening of a grave reveals that the site is already occupied, the Metro Historical Commission reserves the right to designate burial in some other location within their lot to be agreed upon by the family of the deceased.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

The general care of the entire cemetery grounds and lots is assumed by the Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation. Monuments, memorials, trees, flowers, shrubs, plants, vases, ornaments or anything placed in the cemetery is so placed at the owner's risk. The Metro Board of Parks and Recreation will take precautions for the care of such, but it is in no way responsible for loss or damage of such articles.

Funeral flowers will be removed from graves when they become unsightly.

The Metro Board of Parks and Recreation shall direct all improvements within the grounds and upon all lots and graves before and after interments have been made therein. They shall have charge of the planting, sodding, surveying, and improvements generally.

The Metro Board of Parks and Recreation reserves the right to determine, establish, modify, alter, or change the grade of each and every lot, driveway, walkway, or part thereof, and it shall not be liable to anyone for such action.

The right is reserved by the Metro Board of Parks and Recreation to prevent the construction of, or to remove any structure, monument or other object which shall be considered unsightly or injurious to the immediate locality or prejudicial to the character or general appearance of the grounds, or which shall prevent the easy and proper care of graves or lots. The Metro Board of Parks and Recreation also reserves the right to fill and sod sunken graves on neglected lots and do whatever is necessary for the care and good appearance of the lots and grounds.

All grading, landscape work, sodding or seeding and improvements of any kind, all care of lots, shall be done by the Metro Board of Parks and Recreation. All trees and shrubs and

herbage of all kind shall be planted, trimmed, cut or removed by the Metro Board of Parks and Recreation.

For the purpose of making excavations or other such work, the Metro Board of Parks and Recreation reserves the right to use temporarily the adjoining lots or graves to receive such tools, derricks, and materials as may be required.

No trees, shrubs or flowers may be planted or removed from lots without approval and permission of a duly authorized employee of the cemetery

Florists, nurserymen and others not in the employ of the Metro Board of Parks and Recreation may by the direction and approval of Parks and Recreation plant and remove flowers, shrubs and trees.

The Metro Board of Parks and Recreation reserves the right to reject and decline to have planted any and all plants which in its opinion are diseased or injured or not in the good taste or in keeping with the general rules of the grounds, or are otherwise objectionable or unsuitable.

The Metro Parks and Recreation staff reserves the right to remove at any time without notice, any tree shrub or plant, in whole or in part, whether growing on a lot or in the cemetery, when in its opinion, the same or its roots, branches or any other part thereof, is diseased, or is injurious or detrimental to any adjacent lot, road or walk, or renders access to any lot improvement or is otherwise objectionable.

The Metro Board of Parks and Recreation from time to time may lay out or alter such avenues or walks or section plans, or make such rules and regulations for the management of the grounds, as it deems requisite and proper to secure and to promote the general objectives of the cemetery.

No person other than the proper employees of the Metro Board of Parks and Recreation shall be allowed to perform any work on any grave or lot within the grounds without permission from the Parks and Recreation staff.

No person shall be allowed to produce any type movie, film, or commercial type filming within the cemetery.

No advertisement or sign of any kind shall be placed or kept on any lot or grave.

Only family type vehicles are allowed within the cemetery.- no buses, trucks or other heavy vehicles. All vehicles used for interments and setting of monuments must be approved by the Metro Historical Commission. If a violation is made and damage is done to the cemetery, the Metro Board of Parks and Recreation has the right to recover the damaged expenses.

No urns, glass , wood boxes, houses, trellises, benches, trinkets, toys, baskets or ornaments will be allowed on any lot or grave; if so placed, the Metro Board of Parks and Recreation shall have the right to remove such objects without notice.

No enclosure of any kind, such as a fence, coping, hedge or ditch, shall be permitted around any grave or lot. Grave mounds will not be allowed and no lot shall be raised above the established grade.

Any unauthorized person found on the grounds after dark will be considered a trespasser. Fast and reckless driving of cars will not be permitted, and no person shall ride or drive upon the lawns.

All persons are strictly forbidden to break or injure any tree or shrub, or mar any landmark, marker or memorial, or in any way deface the grounds of the cemetery.

Permission must be obtained from the Metro Historical Commission for all activities to be held at the cemetery, including funerals, historical ceremonies, etc.

Open hours of the cemetery shall be 7:30 are until dark, seven days per week.

MEMORIALS

No monument or gravestone shall be placed in the cemetery or removed from it without written permission of Metro Parks and Recreation, and same shall have no responsibility for, nor liable for anything that may happen to monuments and markers.

No change shall be made on a gravestone or monument without the permission of the Metro Historical Commission.

All monumental work must be of good quality reinforced concrete, granite, marble or standard bronze. No wooden markers are permitted. No mausoleums shall be built.

The work of placing all monuments shall be done by licensed independent companies with arrangements and payments for same to be made by lot owners.

The Metro Parks and Recreation Department reserves the right to prohibit the erection of any monument or structure and to remove any monument or structure considered undesirable or to be in violation of the rules and regulations.

Every monument or marker on the grounds must be approved by the Metro Historical Commission before it can set in the cemetery; no temporary marker or memorial may be placed on any lot.

Photographs shall not be placed on markers, monuments or other memorials. If any monument or marker, at any time for any reason, becomes unsafe and unsightly, the Metro Board of Parks and Recreation may reserve such monument or marker, or repair same and the expense of removing or repairing said monument or marker shall be chargeable to and paid by the lot owner.

The Metro Board of Parks and Recreation disclaims any and all responsibility for loss or damage to monuments and markers from the acts of thieves, vandals, rioters, and malicious

mischievous makers, and from elements, including but not limited to winds, tornadoes, cyclones, hail, snow, frost and ice, whether such damage directly or indirectly results therefrom.

Special cases may arise in which the literal enforcement of a rule may impose unnecessary hardship. The Metro Board of Parks and Recreation, therefore reserves the right, without notice, to make exceptions, suspensions or modifications in any of the rules and regulations, when in its judgment, the same appears advisable, and such temporary exemptions, suspensions or modifications shall in no way be construed affecting the general application of such.

Written permission must be obtained from the Board of Parks and Recreation to have any activities other than burials in the cemetery, i.e. picnics, any kind of ceremonies or any large tour group.

Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation approved the City Cemetery Rules and Regulations on June 4, 1991.