

TOWN OF WILLISTON, VERMONT
CEMETERY REGULATIONS (version 2023)
MORSE CEMETERY, THOMAS CHITTENDEN CEMETERY
EAST CEMETERY, DEER VIEW CEMETERY

I. Hours of Operation:

- a. All Williston cemeteries shall be open to vehicular traffic from 7:00 a.m. until dusk, from May 15th to November 15th. Earlier or later interments outside of these dates of access shall be determined by the Cemetery Commissioners or the Sexton, after an assessment of the ground conditions. The pedestrian gate is available year-round
- b. Everyone shall leave the grounds at closing time.

II. General Cemetery Rules:

- a. No person shall remove any objects from a lot unless it is on their own lot.
- b. Destruction of property in any Town of Williston Cemetery is prohibited and will be dealt with under the fullest extent of the law.
- c. Removal of stones and/or monuments for repair, cleaning, engraving or replacement must be pre-approved by the lot owner.
- d. No commercial trucks, roller blades, snowmobiles, or skateboards shall be allowed inside the cemetery except with permission from the Cemetery Commissioners.
- e. All animals shall be leashed or caged. Owners shall clean up after their animals.
- f. Children, under the age of fourteen (14), within cemetery grounds, must be attended by an adult who shall be responsible for his/her conduct.
- g. No solicitation of any kind shall be permitted on or within any Town of Williston Cemeteries: this includes distribution of business cards, pamphlets, or posters.

III. Volunteers, Contractors and Other Workers:

- a. All workers, in any capacity in the cemeteries, shall be subject to the direction and control of the Cemetery Commissioners.
- b. Any worker who does not abide by the regulations or respect the properties of the cemeteries shall not be permitted to enter the cemeteries.
- c. All contractors and/or businesses working in any Williston Cemetery must carry current insurance.
 - 1. Certificate of Insurance required annually at the Town Clerk's Office by April 1st and other times during the year as coverage expires.
 - 2. "Town of Williston" must be identified as the Certificate Holder.
 - 3. Minimum coverage required:
 - 3a. Commercial General Liability
 - Each occurrence \$1,000,000
 - Damage to rented premises, \$250,000 (each occurrence)
 - Medical Expenses, \$5,000 (any one person)
 - Personal & ADV injury, \$1,000,000
 - General Aggregate, \$2,000,000
 - Products – Comp/OP AGG \$2,000,000
 - 3b. Automobile, Scheduled Autos Combined single limit \$1,000,000
 - Hired Auto and Non-Owned Autos (each accident) \$1,000,000

- d. All contractors employed in any capacity in the cemeteries shall give notice to the Cemetery Commission/Sexton before performing any work in the cemeteries.
- e. In all cases, all excavated material from monuments shall be added to the pile at the Deer View Cemetery.
- f. Any entity working on burial, foundation, or monuments must remove excess soil from cemetery premises at its own expense.
- g. Any damage that may be done to any driveway, lawn area and other cemetery property by any contractor, group or individual shall be repaired by the contractor, group or individual at the expense of the contractor, group, or individual.
- h. All workers engaged in the vicinity of a burial shall suspend their labors during a service. All equipment shall be moved outside of the cemetery and shut off.

IV. Lot Sales:

- a. Purchase of lots for current residents and former residents of the Town of Williston: See summary of prices in Section X.
- b. Non-residents can purchase lots: See summary of prices in Section X.
- c. The sale of multiple lots together by one purchaser shall be considered a plot. The minimum number lots to make up a plot shall be two (2).
- d. Four (4) cornerstones must be purchased from the Town of Williston for each plot or single lot.
- e. Four (4) cremation burials or one casket burial and one cremains burial in each lot is permitted. (A "cremains burial" is here defined as a cremains interment beneath ground level, or above the ground in a tomb, like a columbarium).
Cremains buried in a columbarium or other tomb are limited to the numbers of "niches" within that tomb, not to exceed four (4). A "niche" may only contain the remains of a single deceased individual. A 4-niche columbarium initially placed on a lot will render additional burials to be ineligible on that lot.
- f. Persons desiring to purchase cemetery lots or plots will contact a Cemetery Commissioner and shall obtain a copy of the Cemetery Regulations from the Williston Town Clerk and/or Cemetery Commissioner.
- g. The Board of Cemetery Commissioners has the authority to designate certain sections of the cemeteries where lots will not be sold except upon agreements.

V. Lot Transfer/Sales-Private:

- a. Sales of private lot(s) are between the owner and the purchaser.
- b. New cornerstones must be purchased from the Town of Williston by the new lot owner. Cornerstones' letter must conform to the surname of the new lot owner.
e.g. If Robinson sells to Miller, Miller would purchase new cornerstones with an M, but if Robinson sells to Robert, no new cornerstone purchase would be necessary.
- c. The transfer of cemetery lots or part of such lot to a third party shall be reported at the office of the Town Clerk and Commissioners for record before the purchaser shall be allowed to use said lot.

VI. Lot Owner Responsibilities:

- a. Cornerstones are required at the time of lot purchase and will be installed by cemetery personnel at “no additional charge”.
- b. All grass markers must be flush with the ground.
- c. Lot owners will be allowed to plant flowers, artificial flowers and limited shrubs on their lots under the direction of the Cemetery Commissioners. Only the following shrubs will be allowed to be planted: Boxwood (any variety), Blue Nest Spruce, Juniper, Winter Daphne, and Glossy Abelia.
- d. All plantings must be contained within the boundaries of the lot and must be maintained by the lot owner.
- e. Any plantings that infringe upon the boundaries of any adjacent lots must be trimmed back or removed by the lot owners. When plantings are not maintained by lot owners, cemetery personnel and/or their representatives may trim or remove plantings, if necessary, to prevent damage to property and monuments.
- f. Lot owners assume the risk and take full responsibility for any items left at a gravesite and all such items must be maintained by the lot owner.
- g. No glass containers, other than Eternal Lights, shall be allowed in any cemetery without permission of the Cemetery Commissioners.

VII. Monuments and Markers:

- a. All Monuments and Markers shall be installed by the monument company with the exception of the four (4) cornerstones. This includes all military, footstones and cremation markers.
- b. Maximum length monument base allowed will be 36” long for a single lot.
- c. Only one head stone and a maximum of four (4) grass markers are allowed on each single lot.
- d. No monuments, headstone or ground markers shall be set without a foundation that meets the Cemetery Commissioners minimum standard.
- e. Grass level markers will be allowed on each lot with at least a compacted six (6) inches deep crushed stone for a foundation. Final placement of markers shall not exceed the level of the turf.
- f. Monuments and markers may be centered on multiple lots in alignment with the existing monuments. The monument base or foundation may not exceed the width of owner’s plot, minus one foot on each end, or six inches on a single lot.
- g. All monuments and headstone foundations will be poured at a minimum of four (4) feet deep with commercial Ready-mix concrete at 2500 PSI strength or equivalent.
- h. Columbaria. Monuments designed to house cremains containers (niches) above ground level, described as “columbaria”, shall not exceed 4 individual cremains per monument, and only one such monument shall be allowed per individual lot. Niches designed for a single cremains housing are limited to a single cremains entombment. Columbaria shall be composed of stone. The height of a columbarium monument shall not exceed forty-eight (48) inches, and all other regulations referred to in Section VII. Monuments and Markers, a. through g. herein detailed, shall be in effect.
- i. Unless designated as the monument on a lot, no benches or other seating is allowed at a lot site. Benches designated as the principal monument shall be made of stone, and shall not exceed the dimensions as defined for other monuments in Section VII, f.

- j. The Board of Cemetery Commissioners requires forty-eight (48) hour notice and reserves the right to oversee the installation of all foundations for compliance to the guidelines for setting of monuments, headstones and markers.

VIII. Interments and Burials:

- a. All burial services and burials in the cemetery shall be under the control and subject to the direction of the Commissioners/Sexton.
- b. All arrangements for all interments shall be made a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours in advance.
- c. Funeral Directors shall bring and turn over to the Commissioner or his/her designee a burial permit or cremation certificate, whichever applies, with all information completed prior to any burial service/burial. No burial will take place without the above, duly noted certificates.
- d. All fees shall be paid in full prior to any interment. This includes lots, markers, cornerstone (etc.)
- e. Excavated materials from vaults shall be stored at the Deer View Cemetery stock pile or on the excavator's truck away from the burial or covered with a suitable material as determined by a Cemetery Commissioner.
- f. Persons desiring to allow the interment of bodies other than members of their own family shall give written permission of the same signed by the lot owner or by his/her legal representative and recorded in the Town Clerk's Office.
- g. No interment and/or cremated remains of a body other than human shall be permitted in the cemetery.
- h. All workers refer to Section III.
- i. No disinterment or removal of a body shall be allowed except as provided by Title 18 of the State of Vermont Statutes Annotated.

IX. Memorial Garden:

- a. Remains must be in a biodegradable container.
- b. No shrubs are allowed.
- c. Natural flowers are permitted with the permission of the Cemetery Commissioners.
- d. A duly completed cremation certificate is required prior to any burial.
- e. No personalized remembrance items are permitted, other than natural flowers due to the shared community aspect of the Memorial Garden landscape.

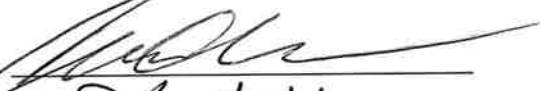

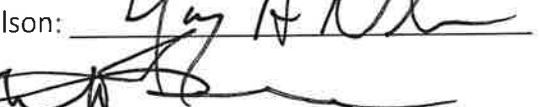
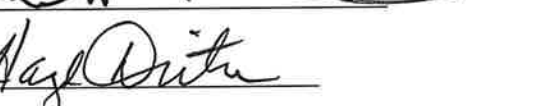

X. Summary of Fees:

- a. All fees shall be paid in full before interment.
- b. Lot prices. (Excludes cornerstones) to be paid to the Town of Williston.
 - 1. Residential lot price: \$500 per single lot
 - 2. Non-Residential lot price \$1000 per single lot
- c. Cornerstones. The four (4) cornerstones must be purchased by lot purchaser for any sale or re-sale of any lot or plot and be paid to the Town of Williston at the time of the sale.

- Only four (4) cornerstones are required for any size plot. The Cemetery Commissioners/Sexton is responsible for ordering and installing the cornerstones at no further expense to the purchaser. Cornerstone: \$300 per four (4) cornerstones.
- d. Memorial Garden. Space may be purchased by a Resident or Nonresident. Price includes a cremation burial, perpetual care, space and lettering on the granite monument. Memorial Garden: \$600 per space.

Dated this 23rd day of March, 2023.

Williston Cemetery Commissioners:

Cameron Clark: 
 Shannon Hiltner: 
 Harry "Drew" Nelson: 
 Jack Price: 
 Hazel Winter: 

Adopted 11th day of November, 2001

- Revised: 16th day of July, 2001*
- Revised: 12th day of November, 2003*
- Revised: 24th day of August, 2005*
- Revised: 25th day of April, 2006*
- Revised: 26th day of July, 2006*
- Revised: 31st day of March, 2008*
- Revised: 2nd day of June, 2008*
- Revised: 11th day of May, 2010*
- Revised 8th day of February, 2011*
- Revised 7th day of April, 2014*
- Revised: 2nd day of August, 2018*
- Revised: 6th day of August, 2019*
- Revised: 19th day of May, 2020*
- Revised: 9th day of December, 2021*
- Revised: 23rd day of March, 2023*

- Reference: 1) Title 18 VSA
 2) "Digging Deep" 2007 by VT Secretary of State, A Guide to Cemetery Commissioners