

RULES and REGULATIONS
WOOSTER CEMETERY & GREAT PLAIN CEMETERY
20 Ellsworth Ave., Danbury, CT 06810
Phone: (203) 748-8529 www.wooster-cemetery.com

For the mutual protection of lot owners, the following rules and regulations have been adopted by The Danbury Cemetery Association, Inc. All lot owners and visitors within the cemeteries, as well as future lot owners, shall be subject to the current rules and regulations, as well as any amendments or alterations deemed necessary by the Danbury Cemetery Association.

Special situations may develop where the literal interpretation of the rule may impose a hardship requiring a just decision by the Danbury Cemetery Association (henceforth known as the Association). The Association shall reserve the power to make exceptions, suspensions, and/or modifications of any of the Rules and Regulations, as the executive board deems necessary on an individual basis.

The Association welcomes bequests or donations for the development and longevity of the cemeteries' historical relevance. The Danbury Cemetery Association, Inc. is a non-profit, non-sectarian, organization functioning under the laws of the State of Connecticut.

BURIAL SITE PURCHASES, INTERMENTS, DISINTERMENTS, AND FUNERALS

Purchases and/or verification of burial lots, lawn crypts or mausoleums may be made at the office of the Association located at 20 Ellsworth Avenue, Danbury, CT 06810. Your purchase will be recorded on the books of The Association at the cemetery office. After full payment, a deed will be issued to the owner and recorded on the books of the Association. No transfer, sale or gifts of any interest in lots, grave sites, lawn crypts, niches or mausoleums or portions thereof will be valid unless approved by the Association and made on the books/records of the Association. No casket interment will be allowed without a permit from the Registrar of Vital Statistics as required by the laws of the State of CT and verification of ownership from the owner or his/her legal representative. Burial of cremation remains require identification of ashes (Cremation Certificate). All indebtedness must be paid before any interment or entombment may be carried out.

Interments, entombments, and dis-interments must be performed by an approved vendor.

Owners of gravesites or mausoleum crypts or niches shall not make interments for remuneration, nor shall they be permitted to transfer any interest of the aforesaid unless made valid on the books of the Association and put in writing to the President of the Association.

Interments and disinterment's are subject to fees approved by the Association. All arrangements must be made with a funeral director, the Sexton or a designated member of the Board of Directors of the Association, and must be performed by a DCA approved/appointed vendor with an insurance liability certificate on file and in accordance with the laws of the state of Connecticut.

All burials, including cremation must be enclosed by an approved burial vault, with exception of green burials.

Entombments in crypts must be placed in a protective container.

CARE AND IMPROVEMENTS

The Association has no desire to interfere with the taste of individuals as to the style and improvement of burial lots, grave sites, or lawn crypts. The Association reserves the right to prevent, prune, or remove any structure, enclosure, planting or inscription that the Association deems obstructive to maintenance, proves to be injurious, or detrimental, offensive or unsightly to the general population.

Lot owners who make improvements to their lots are responsible for leaving their lots (as well as the adjoining lots) in good visual order. Any repairs by the Association will result in a cost to the lot owner.

PERPETUAL CARE

INCLUDES: Cutting the grass as often as necessary, raking the leaves, cleaning the roads.

DOES NOT INCLUDE: Turfing, fertilizing the soil, care or pruning of plantings, cleaning and repairing of monuments, memorials or foot markers.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Lot owners must obtain permission in writing from the Association in order to place any tree or shrub. Once planted, the care of trees or shrubs is the sole responsibility of the lot owner. The Association is not responsible for trees or shrubs that die or are stolen.

FLOWERS AND GARDENS

SIZE: up to 18 inches from the stone and no wider than the width of the stone. If there is no gravestone, the garden can be no larger than 18 inches deep and 30 inches wide.
Potted plants (flowers and shrubs) that are left unplanted and left uncared for will also be removed. They will be discarded or replanted at more appropriate locations to be determined by the Sexton and/or Board of Directors. They will be available at the office for one week to claim them.
NO bushes or trees are to be planted without prior approval from the Board of Directors.
NO ground covers will be planted.
Flowers are permitted, but will be removed if allowed to become overgrown or unsightly. The owner may be charged for any removals.
Artificial flowers or grave decorations will be removed by the Association if they are left to deteriorate, are unsightly or are a nuisance to care.
Must be kept trimmed to prevent encroaching on neighboring lots.
Artifacts left at gravesites must be placed against the grave markers
NO GLASS OR CERAMIC ITEMS OF ANY KIND ARE TO BE PLACED ON GRAVESITES
NO FENCES, but stone or brick borders are allowed and must conform to size regulation
NO SOLAR-POWERED LIGHTS are allowed.
NO BALLOONS, pinwheels and like items.

WINTER AND HOLIDAY GRAVE DECORATION

Winter decoration (grave blankets, etc.) are permitted, but they must be removed before March 15th. Containers or decorations for lot owners will NOT be saved; it is your responsibility to remove these if they wish to save the containers.
All other holiday decorations must be removed within a reasonable length of time (2 weeks after the holiday).

FLAGS

Flags placed on graves will NOT be removed by the Association unless they are badly damaged. The Association is not responsible for the placement of flags on graves, although we will always provide assistance to community groups who wish to place flags. A limited number of flags are available in the office.

COMMUNAL MAUSOLEUMS

Owners and visitors at communal mausoleums and niches are prohibited from taping or affixing any pictures, objects, cards or flowers to the mausoleum crypt fronts and niche fronts.

HEADSTONES, MONUMENTS, MEMORIALS, GREEN BURIALS

Concrete foundations for memorials, foot markers and monuments are required. All foundations and boundary stones are to be installed by contractors approved by the Association and require the written permission from the lot owner. Memorial installation forms are available through local monument dealers or in the cemetery office. Inscriptions to be added to existing stones must be done by contractors approved by the Association. Retaining walls, planting of shrubbery or trees must be approved in advance by the Association. Monuments and headstones made from materials other than granite and/or bronze must be approved in advance by the Association. No stones at any time are to be moved without notification and approval by family or a legal guardian. The Association is not responsible for the cleaning and maintenance of memorials, monuments and foot markers.

VISITORS (GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS)

The Wooster Cemetery and the Great Plain Cemetery are private property. The cemeteries are open to the public from 8:00 AM to sunset.

All visitors are welcomed and are subject to the Rules and Regulations of the cemetery but anyone younger than 16 years must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Anyone exhibiting improper conduct or engaging in malicious activities will be asked to leave the grounds. Illegal activities may subject the individual to arrest and prosecution.

Any film projects of the cemetery grounds are subject to full board approval along with film permit application, application fees, restrictions and proof of insurance.

All vehicles must be removed from the roadways when a funeral procession is approaching so as not to interfere with their activities. The speed limit within the cemetery is 10 MPH.

Any memorial ceremony related to interment is permitted. All other ceremonies, services or use of the cemetery property must be approved by the Association in advance.

Pets are expected to be leashed and their droppings placed in plastic bags and placed in trash receptacles.

NOT ALLOWED:

Discharging firearms in the cemetery unless it is a military funeral.

Flowers or artificial decorations on Veteran Graves owned by the City of Danbury. An American flag is permitted as well as winter decorations.

Boats, rafts, ice skating, fishing or wading in the pond.

The use of sleds, toboggans or other snowmobiles.

Skateboards, roller blades, motorized off road vehicles, ATV's or "pocket bikes".

Open fires or camping.

Feeding of the wildlife.

Hunting and trapping.

Depositing trash, debris, or littering on any part of the cemeteries. This will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Intentional damage or destruction of monuments, memorials or Association property will result in prosecution to the fullest extent of the law.

Policy for Decorating Gravesites

DANBURY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC.

The decorating of the graves of loved ones is a time-honored tradition. The Association encourages this activity. In order to provide guidance to families and to help preserve the natural beauty of the cemetery, the following guidelines are to be followed.

- 1) Care of individual lots by the Association (commonly referred to as "Perpetual Care") includes cutting of the grass, trimming of grass around gravestones, raking of leaves, removal of branches and debris, and maintaining the primary roads. Perpetual Care does NOT include laying of turf, fertilizing, pruning of shrubs or watering of plants. It also does not include the cleaning or repair of gravestones.
- 2) No tree or shrub shall be planted on any burial lot except with the permission of the Board of Directors. Once planted, the care of trees or shrubs is the sole responsibility of the lot owner. The Association cannot assume any liability for trees or shrubs that die or are stolen.
- 3) Individuals may prepare a flower garden in front of a gravestone. Such gardens may extend up to 18 inches from the stone and may not exceed the width of the stone. In the absence of a gravestone, the garden may not exceed 18 inches deep and 30 Inches wide.
- 4) Individual flower gardens may be surrounded with brick edging or other suitable blocks (such as scalloped blocks). At no time may garden areas be enclosed with fencing of any kind as it is a significant safety hazard to our grounds crew.
- 5) Potted plants (flowers) that are left unplanted and left uncared for will also be removed. They will be available at the office for one week to claim them. After one week, they will be discarded or replanted at more appropriate locations to be determined by the Sexton and/or Board of Directors. Potted shrubs will be removed immediately.
- 6) Maintenance of flower gardens shall be done by the lot owner or designee. Gardens which become unsightly or overgrown may be removed by-the Association. All plantings must be kept trimmed to prevent encroaching on neighboring lots. The use of ground covers is forbidden.
- 7) Artifacts left at grave sites must be placed against the grave markers or on the monument base, if present. For safety reasons, no glass or ceramic items may be placed on grave sites.
- 8) Balloons, pinwheels and like items are not allowed at any time.
- 9) NO solar-powered lights are allowed.
- 10) The Association will be as flexible as possible with this policy, but there will be instances when action is necessary. Any questions or concerns should be addressed to the Superintendent's office at the Ellsworth Avenue entrance.
- 11) Flags placed on graves will NOT be removed by the Association unless they are badly damaged. The Association is not responsible for the placement of flags on graves, although we will provide assistance to community groups who wish to place flags. A limited number of flags are available in the office.