



Catholic Cemeteries Association
of the Archdiocese of Hartford, Inc.

Caring for God's Acre *under the supervision of The Catholic Cemeteries Association of The Archdiocese of Hartford, Inc.*

Knowing of our mutual desire to have a well-kept cemetery, the Association is listing in this leaflet, some of its applicable **Summer** and **Winter** regulations.

Cemeteries, like homes and neighborhoods, can be beautiful and attractive, or cluttered and untidy. This appearance depends in part on the cemetery regulations. **Only by your cooperation and adherence to these rules and by our strict enforcement can we attain our common goal.** What is attractive to one may be offensive to another. Please do not ask for exceptions.

The Cemetery has established fair and reasonable regulations. They exist to protect the conscientious lot owner. They are essential for the cemetery to be attractive and well maintained without placing an unfair financial burden on our families. **Rules and regulations are subject to change.** Any conflict between rules and regulations previously adopted shall be resolved in favor of current rules and regulations. We ask you not to over decorate, both for aesthetic reasons, and to help keep maintenance and disposal costs within bounds.

It is not necessary that graves be decorated at all times. Thousands of people visit the cemetery yearly; hundreds daily. It is, therefore, very difficult to control the activity of every visitor. We regret we cannot guarantee decorations from damage or disappearance.

Excerpts from Winter Regulations

1. WHEN MAY DECORATIONS BE PLACED? Winter decorations are permitted during the period **November 20th to March 1st**. These decorations may consist of wreaths, artificial flowers or boughs of evergreens placed in a flower box. **No decoration can exceed 2ft. in length x 2 ft. in width x 2 ft. in height.**
2. PLACEMENT OF DECORATIONS. On upright monument lots - decorations are confined to the 2 foot area adjacent to the monument on the burial side of the monument.
 - a. When burials are in front of the upright monument, the decoration is to be placed directly in front of the monument.
 - b. When burials are both in front and rear of the monument, a decoration is permitted in front and rear of the monument. Decorations on the side of the monument base are prohibited.
 - c. *On flush marker lots* - decorations are confined to the 2 foot area directly in front of the marker or between markers. **No more than one decoration may be placed on a grave.** It is not necessary to decorate each grave.
 - d. *Decorations improperly placed* make it difficult for equipment to excavate graves and clear snow. Decorations and wires freeze to the ground and cannot be removed without breaking. Frequently, they are buried in the snow and cannot be seen. **Winter decorations inserted into the ground are not allowed and will be removed.** Sometimes, damage occurs during winter interments despite exercising all reasonable caution and, therefore, the cemetery cannot be responsible for damage.
3. REMOVAL OF WINTER DECORATIONS. All decorations are removed and disposed of beginning **March 1st**. Decorations will not be retained by the cemetery. If you wish to retain any of these decorations, you must remove them prior to this date. Evergreens become dried out and lose color after two months of exposure to wind, sun, and snow. Removal at this time allows clean up of the cemetery prior to the Easter Season. If weather conditions do not permit removal on **March 1st**, they will be removed as soon as practical after this date. It can take weeks to remove all winter decorations.
4. GRAVE BLANKETS, concrete products or articles such as glass jars, any type of light, palm, Christmas trees, and bric-a-brac of any description are forbidden.
5. PALM SUNDAY - EASTER. When Easter occurs **prior to April 15th**, artificial flowers may be used. Palm Sunday and Easter decorations will be removed 10 days after Easter. We urge families to remove them prior to this time, as they can be used for several seasons.
 - a. Artificial flowers are NOT allowed after **April 15.**
 - b. *PALM has been blessed and, therefore, should not be used as a cemetery decoration.*
6. CEMETERY CONTAINERS are for cut flowers Only and not to be used for winter decorations.
7. Only cloth American Flags on wooden dowels are allowed, and will be removed according to Flag Laws.
8. Visitors are required to leash and clean up after their pets.
9. **Please do not park or drive on the grass. Maximum speed limit is 10 miles per hour.**

Excerpts from Summer Regulations

1. ARTIFICIAL DECORATIONS Are not permitted between April 15 and November 20.
2. PLACEMENT OF DECORATIONS:
 - a. *Flush Marker Lots* **Planting of flowers is prohibited.** Natural cut flowers are permitted at other times when placed in vases that are available at the cemetery office without charge. These vases are to be used to commemorate special occasions such as: anniversaries, birthdays, etc. They are not intended for continual use. Vases are strictly for cut flowers and NOT for potted plants. **Only one vase is allowed on a grave. Additional containers will be removed.**
3. POTTED PLANTS and flower boxes on both monument and non-monument lots are allowed only during the ten (10) day period following Palm and Easter Sunday, Mothers and Fathers Day and Memorial Day. **Potted plants dug into the soil or placed in cemetery cut flower vases will be immediately removed.**
4. UPRIGHT MONUMENT LOTS: When burials are in front of the upright monument, **the planting of annual/perennial flowers is permitted only in the 1 ft. area directly in front of the monument.** When ownership is both in the front and rear of the monument, the planting of annual/perennial flowers is permitted on both sides. **Plantings on the side of the monument are not allowed.** Plantings must be kept 6" below the height of the monument. Plantings require weekly maintenance by the lot owner. If plantings become overgrown, they will be removed.
5. BENCHES: The planting of annual/perennial plants is only permitted when a bench is placed in lieu of an upright monument and follow the same planting guidelines as an upright monument. **No plantings are permitted when a bench is not located within a monument row. Planting of shrubbery i.e., rose, hydrangea, etc. is not permitted.**
6. FLUSH MARKERS: The installation of cameo portraits on flush markers is not permitted.
7. NEW SHRUBBERY is not permitted on individual lots. Existing shrubs will be removed by the cemetery at such time as they grow taller than 6" below the height of the monument.
8. PROHIBITED: Concrete products, metal urns and articles such as glass jars, plastic items (with the exception of cemetery issued vases for cut flowers), any type of light, name plates, balloons, chimes, pumpkins, figurines, borders, and bric-a-brac of any description are not allowed.
9. **Please do not park or drive on the grass. Maximum speed limit is 10 miles per hour.**
10. MAUSOLEUMS AND GARDEN CRYPTS: **No decoration of any type** (including any type of lights or flowers) may be placed on any crypt or crypt area. Anyone found in violation may be held responsible for all costs incurred in either the removal of or damage caused by the placement of these illegal decorations
11. Only cloth American Flags on wooden dowels are allowed, and will be removed according to Flag Laws.
12. Visitors are required to leash and clean up after their pets.
13. **Please use** rubbish containers throughout the cemetery.