# Catholic Cemeteries Association

OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD, INC.

## GUIDELINES FOR THE CARE OF OUR SACRED GROUNDS

Knowing of our mutual desire to have a well-kept cemetery, the Association is listing in this flyer some of its applicable **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. **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. **There will be no exceptions.**

## Winter Regulations

1. **WHEN DECORATIONS MAY BE PLACED:** Winter decorations are permitted during the period of 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 2 ft. in length x 2 ft. in width x 2 ft. in height. Cones/vases are not allowed November through April.
2. **PLACEMENT OF DECORATIONS:**

   **FLUSH MARKER LOTS** - decorations are confined to the two-foot area directly in front of the marker. No more than one decoration may be placed on a grave.

   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.

   **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 sides 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.
3. **FLUSH MARKERS:** The installation of photo portraits or emblems on flush markers is not permitted.
4. **MAUSOLEUMS, GARDEN CRYPTS, & NICHES:** No decoration of any type (including any type of lights or flowers) may be placed on any crypt or niche. 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.
5. **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. 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.
6. **PROHIBITED:** Grave blankets, concrete products, or articles such as glass jars, any type of light, palms, Christmas trees, shrubbery, and décor items of any kind are forbidden.
7. **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. Artificial flowers are NOT allowed after APRIL 15.
8. **FLOWER CONTAINERS** are for fresh cut flowers only and are not to be used for winter decorations.
9. **FLAGS:** Only cloth American Flags on wooden dowels are allowed (maximum 8”x12”) and will be removed according to Flag Laws.
10. **PETS:** Visitors are required to leash and clean up after their pets.
11. **TRASH:** Please use garbage containers throughout the cemetery.

**LEASE DO NOT PARK ON THE GRASS. MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT IS 10 MILES PER HOUR.**

***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. 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.*

**700 MIDDLETOWN AVE., NORTH HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06473**
**475-227-0216 | www.ccacem.org | info@ccacem.org**

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## GUIDELINES FOR THE CARE OF OUR SACRED GROUNDS

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## Summer Regulations

1. **ARTIFICIAL DECORATIONS** are not permitted between April 15 and November 20.
2. **PLACEMENT OF DECORATIONS**:

   **FLUSH MARKER LOTS** - Planting of flowers is prohibited. Fresh cut flowers are permitted when placed in vases which are available at the cemetery office without charge. Vases are strictly for cut flowers and NOT for potted plants, which are not allowed. Only one vase is allowed per grave. Additional containers will be removed.

   **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 sides 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.
3. **BENCHES:** The planting of annual/perennial plants is only permitted when a bench is placed in lieu of an upright monument and follows the same planting guidelines as an upright monument.
4. **FLUSH MARKERS:** The installation of photo portraits or emblems on flush markers is not permitted.
5. **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 Father's Day, and Memorial Day. Potted plants dug into the soil or placed in cemetery cut flower vases will be immediately removed.
6. **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.
7. **PROHIBITED:** Grave blankets, concrete products, or articles such as glass jars, any type of light, palms, trees, and décor items of any description are forbidden.
8. **MAUSOLEUMS, GARDEN CRYPTS, & NICHES:** No decoration of any type (including any type of lights or flowers) may be placed on any crypt or niche. 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.
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