

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR CITY OF GAFFNEY CEMETERIES

Burials at other than established cemetery prohibited.

All cemeteries owned by the city, wherever the same may be situated, are hereby declared to be public burying grounds, and it shall be unlawful for any person to establish or use any place for the burial of the dead within city limits, except such as are already established for that purpose, and it shall likewise be unlawful for any person to bury any dead body within the city limits except in such cemeteries or burial grounds as have been set apart, established or used for the purpose, except by special permission of the city council.

Sale of lots in city cemeteries.

The city council, upon advice of the cemetery commission shall have charge of the sale of lots in the city cemeteries, and shall fix the price at which such lots, parts of lots, or single graves in any such cemetery shall receive from the city a certificate or deed of conveyance therefore, to be executed on behalf of the city by the mayor and the city administrator. No person shall be permitted to purchase any land in any city cemetery for the purpose of speculation, or for any other purpose than that of burial therein, not shall any such land be sold except for burial purposes. Before any burial permit is issued for the burial of any person in a city cemetery, the full amount of the purchase price of the lot or grave to be used must be paid in cash to the city. No persons shall receive a deed of conveyance to any lot, part of lot or single grave in any city cemetery until the same has been paid for in full; not shall any person, without permission from the cemetery commission, use or occupy any lot for which a deed has not been made on behalf of the city. No lot or part thereof shall be sold by any owner of a cemetery lot except with the permission of the cemetery commission and a proper record shall be made by the commission of such a transfer.

Rules and regulations.

Subject to the supervision and review of the City Council and with the advice of the Gaffney Cemetery Committee, the City Administrator shall have power to prescribe rules and regulations, not inconsistent with law or with the provisions of this Code and other ordinances of the city, for the government of all city cemeteries. It shall be unlawful for any person to fail, neglect or refuse to comply with such regulations.

Prohibited conduct; responsibility for damage.

Conduct in city cemeteries shall be as follows:

- (1) It shall be unlawful for any person within any city cemetery or any grounds connected therewith or at any point in close proximity to such cemetery to:
 - a. Cut, break, mutilate, mark, deface or in any manner destroy or injure any tree, plant, flower, vine, shrub, house, chair, fence or other property, real or personal, belonging to or used by the city;
 - b. Post or affix any bill, sign or notice on any tree or building or otherwise;
 - c. Distribute any handbills or dodgers;
 - d. Handle or discharge any firearm, firecracker, air gun, slingshot or other explosive, noisy or destructive article, instrument or substance;
 - e. Throw any stone or missile;

- f. Drink spirituous liquors;
 - g. Make loud or unnecessary noises;
 - h. Engage in noisy disputes or conversation;
 - i. Make any indecent exposure of the person;
 - j. Be guilty of any lewd or indecent act or behavior;
 - k. Behave in a disorderly manner, so as to disturb the peace, quiet or order of such cemetery.
- (2) It shall be unlawful at any time for anyone to walk or be in any cemetery to the annoyance of peaceable citizens.
- (3) Refreshments shall not be carried into any cemetery nor partaken of therein.
- (4) Every person riding, driving or walking in any city cemetery shall be responsible for any damage to any property in any cemetery by him or by any child or animal in his charge.
- (5) It shall be unlawful to place gravel or other like stone on a burial plot.

Permit for, supervision of, etc., burials in city cemeteries.

- (a) Any person desiring to make an interment in a city cemetery shall obtain a permit in a manner provided by the city administrator and shall furnish such information as the city administrator, shall require. The city administrator shall keep such records relative to permits as may be necessary and advisable. When the applicant has complied with necessary regulations, a permit shall be issued. No burial shall be had without such a permit.
- (b) No excavations for vaults, monuments or graves shall be made in any city cemetery by any person, without written permission from the city.

Fences, curbing and coping around graves or lots.

No fence or wooden structure shall be erected around any grave or lot in any city cemetery unless approved by the City of Gaffney. Such lots may be raised and curbed with approved coping and coping shall be of granite or similar quarried stone. The stone shall be uniform in width and length, and not more than 4 inches above the level of the adjoining walk if such curbing is set upon a substantial foundation satisfactory to the superintendent of cemeteries.

Care of lots by lot owners.

It shall be the duty of all persons owning lots in any city cemetery to keep such lots in good order and condition. Any person owning a lot in any such cemetery who shall refuse or fail to put his lot in order within ten days after notice to do so from the superintendent of cemeteries shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. No more than two (2) items shall be placed on a grave at any one time. Pin wheels or like items are prohibited. Gravel or like stone is prohibited.

Upkeep of lots.

The city will keep any lot in any city cemetery permanently clean and free from debris and weeds. Unkept or overgrown lots with gravel will be cleaned and gravel will be removed.

Placing trash on lot of another or on city property.

It shall be unlawful for any person to place, throw or put or cause or permit to be placed, thrown or put any trash, refuse, litter or cleanings on the lot of any other person or on any lot owned by the city or on any driveway or walkway in any city cemetery.

Sale of lots by owners.

The owner of a lot in any city cemetery may sell and convey his lot to others, provided that the written consent of the superintendent of cemeteries is first had and obtained.

Disposition of money received from sales.

All moneys received by the city from lots sold in city cemeteries shall be paid to the City of Gaffney.

Opening of graves.

No excavations for vaults, monuments or graves shall be made in any city cemetery by any person, without notification to the city. No unattended open grave shall be left without proper safety measures to insure no injuries occur.

Burial of indigent persons.

If it appears to the satisfaction of the superintendent of cemeteries that any person, a resident of the city, dying within the city has left no property or other means with which to pay his funeral expenses, the superintendent of cemeteries, may authorize the burial therein such deceased person free of charge. Such order, before becoming effective, shall be approved by the chairman of the cemetery committee or, in case of the absence or disability of the chairman, by a member of such committee.

Owner maintained lots.

Owner of plots who wish to maintain their lots shall submit a request to the city with plot number and location. Lot's maintenance by owners shall follow at a minimum the same maintenance schedule as the City of Gaffney.

Method of burial generally.

All bodies must be buried in the ground, in accordance with the provisions of all applicable state laws and regulations, unless special arrangement is made with the city. Such special arrangement must be made before internment. In ground burials shall include vaults.

Depth of graves.

All graves dug in the city cemeteries shall be in accordance with all applicable state laws and regulations.

Foundation for tombstone, monument or mausoleum.

No tombstone, monument or mausoleum shall be placed in any city cemetery, unless it rests upon a proper foundation of concrete, at least twenty (20) inches below the surface. Every monument shall rest upon a foundation of concrete, and if such monument is placed upon or over a grave, or at the head of the grave, then the foundation therefore shall extend at least two (2) feet below the surface of the ground, but if such monument is placed upon solid

ground, so that its stability is not affected by any adjoining grave, then the foundation need not extend more than eighteen (18) inches below the surface.

Flowers and their containers.

- a) Seasonal flowers, which remain 60 days after the holiday (Christmas and Easter), Poinsettias and Easter Lilies, shall be removed by the city.
- b) Faded artificial flowers and old battered basket-type containers shall be removed by the City.
- c) Citizens depositing such flowers or arrangements for remembrance of their loved ones may assist in the timely removal of seasonal type flowers, as well as with the timely removal of faded artificial or dead flowers and old basket-type containers.
- d) The City Council hereby authorizes the removal of those items by the city's cemetery maintenance workers after such time periods as defined in this section with or without the owners' consent.
- e) The City Council absolves the city or its employees from any claims submitted for flowers or containers so removed if they are removed by the city after the time limit.
- f) The City Council believes that the city, as the custodian of this cemetery, has a right to protect the cemetery for the beauty and enjoyment of all.

Cremation.

Four cremation burials shall be allowed on a single burial plot.