

## **City of Midway Cemetery Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Grave Sites and Lots.**

Pursuant to Ordinance Sec. 93.05 Decorations and Plantings. "The rules and regulations for plantings and decorations of grave sites with the Midway Cemeteries shall be set forth in regulations adopted, from time to time, by the City Council."

Effective as of June 1, 2017, the City of Midway has adopted and approved the following City of Midway Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Grave Sites and Lots.

1. The lot owner shall provide a suitable memorial identifying each set of remains in a particular lot. Ordinance Sec. 93.02 (J). For purposes of these Cemetery Rules and Regulations, a memorial is defined as a monument, headstone or footstone. In some cases, both a headstone and foot stone on a single grave is permitted.
2. No memorial shall be erected on any cemetery lot or single grave without the approval of the City of Midway Mayor, Cemetery Manager, or the Mayor's designated representative(s). The Cemetery determines and pre-approves the location of all memorials. Because of their durability, the cemetery management recommends purchasing granite, marble, or bronze memorials. Concrete, wood, artificial stone, composition, cast plaster, tin, or iron are not permitted to be installed.
3. Artificial floral decorations and wreaths are permitted on grave sites between November 15 until March 1. Artificial decorations placed at other times are prohibited and, if placed in the cemetery, will be removed. Floral saddles are not recommended to be placed on memorial headstones due to the high probability of damaging the memorial headstone. Decorations related to Christmas such as Christmas trees, wreaths, and similar items are permitted between November 15th and January 24th but will be removed after January 25th. Artificial florals will be removed after March 1st and are prohibited in the cemetery thereafter until November 15th.
4. Fresh cut or live flowers are permitted year round. Flowers in small baskets or pots of 12" or less in size are permitted if

placed within close proximity to the headstone. Terra cotta pots are preferred as plastic pots do not hold up well against the use of weed trimmers.

5. The cemetery is not responsible for breakage of glass or ceramic vases used for fresh cut flowers and recommends the use of metal or plastic vases for this purpose.
6. Concrete planters, urns, or pots of any size are prohibited.
7. Flowers and their containers will be removed when the flowers are spent or wilted.
8. Trellises, standards, supports, hangers, shepherds hooks, or brackets of any kind are prohibited and, if placed in the cemetery will be removed.
9. Three point stands that are traditionally included with wreaths and funeral sprays are excluded from this restriction so long as the wreath or spray is displayed, is fresh and not spent or wilted. The stand should be proportionally sized to the floral item displayed.
10. No new plantings of trees or shrubs on lots or grave sites will be approved after June 1, 2017. This includes, but is not limited to, rose bushes. All such plantings will be removed by the city cemetery workers upon discovery. All existing shrubs and bushes will be allowed to remain until such time as management determines an individual plant is any of the following:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ (a) overgrown to the extent that it cannot be pruned or cut back to a manageable size considering the corresponding headstone's height as the guideline; or
  - \_\_\_\_\_ (b) is at risk of undermining a headstone, footstone or monument's foundation or has become detrimental or obtrusive in any way to surrounding headstones or monuments; or
  - \_\_\_\_\_ (c) has become unattractive or unsightly due to age, disease, or injury.
11. Flower beds of spring bulbs and summer annuals that are planted in the ground are permitted but the size of beds are limited to 12" depth in front and 6" extended from each side

of monument or headstone. Flower beds must at all times be kept neat, weeded and properly maintained or will be subject to immediate removal.

12. The use of rock, stones, lava rock, glass landscaping pebbles or similar products are prohibited. Bark mulch is prohibited. Finely shredded mulch such as hardwood mulch or peat moss are permitted to help control weeds in areas limited to an area of 12" depth in front and 6" to each side of monuments or headstones.
13. Landscape edging, curbing, or fencing of any type or material is prohibited.
14. No bench or similar seating fabricated from any material including wood, metal, concrete, stone, granite, or other materials are permitted on family lots or individual grave sites. A granite memorial bench or cremation bench utilized in place of a memorial headstone is excluded from this restriction.
15. Toys, shells, balloons, decorative stones, wooden items, any statuary, mirrors or glass items, eternal flames, solar lights, decorative solar articles on stakes, photographs or paper articles, plaster, stone, or composite stepping stones, lawn stakes of any type, tree ornaments, wind chimes, sun catchers, birdhouses, or feeders are prohibited for grave site decoration and are subject to immediate removal.
16. The placement of American flags on family lots or single grave sites is allowed year round with the following restrictions:
  - (a) the maximum size of 12" x 18" x 30" staff height is allowed. (The Veterans Memorial Committee places this size at individual veteran's graves twice during the year.);
  - (b) flags must be fabricated of plastic or cloth material and attached to a wooden or plastic staff and the staff height shall not exceed 30";
  - (c) all flags must be securely placed in the ground or flower arrangement. If a flag is in contact with the ground, it will be straightened and stabilized if possible and, if not,

be removed as per instruction by accepted “Flag Etiquette”;

- (d) a maximum of two flags is permitted per family lot or one flag per single grave; and,
- (e) the Cemetery may remove any flag that it deems to be offensive or that has become worn or unsightly.

The City of Midway has set forth general policies and procedures relating to our cemeteries that include regulating operations, governing interments, the sale and ownership of lots, associated costs and fees, and guidelines of conduct within the boundaries of the cemeteries. This and related information can be found in Chapter 93 of the Midway City ordinances. The City, by and through its Council or the Cemetery Committee, reserves the right to amend these policies and regulations from time to time, as it deems necessary for the care of the cemetery and the protection of the lot owners. In addition, the City Council or the Cemetery Committee may adopt additional rules and regulations regarding the cemetery not inconsistent with Chapter 93, and 93.06 (O).

The Midway City Cemetery has set aside an area where items that are removed from grave sites will be kept for two (2) weeks following removal for those who wish to recover these items. After two (2) weeks, items prohibited and in violation of these Cemetery Rules and Regulations will be discarded. Please call the city hall at 859-846-4413 for additional information.