

REGULATIONS  
OF THE  
NORTHBOROUGH  
CEMETERIES



*Board of Cemetery Commissioners*

*Adopted  
February 17, 2021*

## RULES & REGULATIONS OF THE NORTHBOROUGH CEMETERIES

### CONTROL OF THE CEMETERY

The Cemetery Commission or their representative, (the Town), shall have authority to enforce all Rules and Regulations and to exclude from the Cemetery violators thereof. The Town shall have charge of the grounds and buildings and shall have supervision and control of traffic, funerals and all persons in the Cemetery.

### GENERAL

1. The operation of motor vehicles within the cemetery shall be prohibited between dusk and dawn.
2. Any person shall remove himself from the cemetery grounds immediately upon the request of the Town or any authorized person.
3. No fires of any sort are permitted within the cemetery.
4. The playing of radios or other sound equipment including the sounding of horns is prohibited.
5. The driving on or walking on areas other than paths and ways is prohibited except as may be required for normal visits to and decoration of specific graves or lots.
6. The removal or disturbing in any way of floral decorations, shrubs and trees, by anyone other than the lot or grave owner, or cemetery personnel, is prohibited.
7. The depositing of trash or litter of any kind is prohibited except in receptacles provided for that purpose.
8. Conduct inconsistent with the use of said grounds for cemetery purposes is prohibited.
9. Anything left in the cemetery is so placed at the sole responsibility of the party who leaves it. The Cemetery Commissioners and the Town shall not be liable for any loss by theft, vandalism or other cause.
10. No dogs are allowed on the cemetery premises - Police will be notified.

## GRAVES AND LOTS

1. All work on or physical disturbances of any lot or grave shall be limited to that authorized by the proprietor thereof and performed under the supervision of the Superintendent of the Cemetery.
2. The proprietor of each lot or grave shall cause to be removed there from all flowers or other decorations whenever notified by the Town that the same have become unsightly.
3. All articles left on graves are the responsibility of the person leaving them, and may be removed there from by the Town at their discretion.
4. No lot shall be sold unless provision is made for perpetual care thereof which term shall include seeding, cutting of grass and preservation of graves. Perpetual care shall not include maintenance of plants, shrubbery or markers or services in connection of interment.
5. Lot sales and/or transfers shall be limited to current Northborough residents and eligible former Northborough residents. Eligibility shall be determined by the Cemetery Commission or Director of Public Works. Compelling evidence of strong ties to Northborough shall be submitted by all former-residents seeking to purchase a lot or obtain a lot through transfer. Cemetery Commission shall be the appelland body for decisions of the Director. Requests for appeal shall be made in writing and considered by the Commission at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

## MEMORIALS

1. The Cemetery Commission shall establish memorial restrictions as to size and type for all new lots and graves in the cemetery. These restrictions will be in accordance with the Town of Northborough Cemetery Headstone Information sheet and common cemetery practice and design.
2. Only one upright memorial will be allowed on lots, of two or more single contiguous graves in areas designated for such memorials by the Cemetery Commission. All other memorials will be limited to the lawn marker type (flush marker).
3. All memorials will be set on concrete foundations except where a temporary setting is approved by the Town.

## SERVICE CHARGES

1. The Cemetery Commission shall annually review and may amend service charges for all services performed by the cemetery. These charges will include interment, disinterment, foundations, overtime, Saturday, and winter charges but are not restricted to these alone.
2. No service will be performed on Sunday or legal holidays and special charges will be in effect for Saturday services.
3. The Cemetery Commission shall annually establish charges for the purchase of lots and graves in the cemetery including the amount required for perpetual care.

## PAYMENT

1. Full payment of the purchase price of lots or graves is required before use. The Town shall perform no service until full payment of all service charges is made.

## PLANTINGS AND DECORATIONS

1. **SHRUBS:** Permanent shrubs may only be planted at each side of a monument subject to approval of location, size and variety of planting by the Superintendent. No plantings are allowed to the rear of any monument. The pruning and care of such plantings shall be the responsibility of the proprietor of the lot. Unsightly or neglected plantings may be removed by direction of the Director of Public Works or their designee.
2. **TREES:** Any Planting of trees on any lot which may injure said lot or any other lot, or interfere with ways, or may cause injury or, create any condition dangerous to the public may be removed in whole or part by direction of the Director of Public Works or their designee.
3. **GRASS:** The sod on any lot shall not be disturbed except as provided in paragraph 1 above or for purpose of opening a grave.
4. **FLORAL DECORATIONS:** No plantings shall be permitted on lots or graves restricted to “flush markers”. This shall not prevent the placing of potted plants or flowers in a container adjacent to such markers. Plantings shall be allowed on lots of three or more single graves with upright memorials. However, these beds are limited in size, to one (1) foot in width and the length of the memorial. The planting bed shall be placed in front of the memorial only. The placing of urns or other repositories for flowers or decorations of a permanent nature is prohibited.

The Town may remove unsightly or neglected floral decorations and/or those decorations remaining after the dates defined herein. All winter decorations shall be removed by April 1, and all other seasonal decorations shall be removed by October 31.

## FUNERALS

1. All funerals, upon entering cemetery property, shall be subject to the direction of the Town as to traffic flow, parking, and all other details that are not strictly within the responsibility of the funeral director and/or minister.
2. Funerals (burials) shall be scheduled by the Northborough Department of Public Works a minimum of three business days in advance and shall be in accordance with the following schedule:
  - a. Monday through Friday; between the hours of 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM
  - b. Saturday; limited to **one** service between the hours of 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM

## INTERMENTS AND FUNERALS

1. There can be no interment without approval of the Town. Also prerequisite to any such interment is an Interment Order signed by the person having legal custody of the remains of the deceased and by the representative or one of the owners of the interment space, giving the required information about the deceased and showing by diagram the exact location for the grave when the interment is in a lot. Cremation remains must be in a rugged container.
2. Remains interred in lots or graves shall be enclosed in a permanent concrete vault or grave box of approved specifications. Full burial remains interred in lots or graves shall be enclosed in a permanent concrete vault.
3. Cremation burial remains interred in lots or graves shall be either enclosed in a permanent concrete vault or be contained in a burial urn manufactured specifically for earthen burial. Direct burial urns shall be of non-biodegradable material, seal so as to be water resistant, and be able to withstand earthen burial pressures to prevent ground collapse.
4. The Town shall be given 3 business days' notice in advance of all interments, to allow time for the grave to be prepared.

## DISINTERMENTS AND REMOVALS

1. Disinterment and removals from the Cemetery may be made upon final order of a court having jurisdiction. In the absence of such an order, no disinterment and removal from the cemetery shall be made without the consent of the Director of Public Works or their designee and the written authorization of the owner of the lot or conveyable grave and the surviving spouse, children (if of age) and parents of the deceased. No disinterment or removal of the body, or cremated remains, of any person shall be made until the Superintendent shall have been furnished with such permits and certificates as may be required by law.
2. Removal of a body or cremated remains in order that the interment space may be sold is strictly prohibited. Removal contrary to the expressed or implied wish of the person interred or removal for other reasons not considered proper by the Cemetery Commission is prohibited except under court order as aforesaid.
3. The Cemetery Commission reserves the right to correct any errors, which may have occurred in making interments, disinterment, or removals. If the error was due to incorrect information on the part of the person or persons giving or signing the interment order, the Cemetery Commission shall have the right to remove the remains and make such disposition of them, as it may deem best. In the event such error involved the interment of the remains of any person in an interment space, which had been granted through error, the Cemetery Commission shall have the right to remove and/or transfer such remains so interred to other interment spaces of equal value and similar location.

## APPENDICES

Appendix A – Cemetery Service List

Appendix B – Cemetery Headstone Information

APPENDIX A

Town of Northborough

Cemetery Service List as of 02/2021

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Grave - Opening Weekday	\$575.00
Saturday Morning Opening	\$750.00
Baby Grave - Opening Weekday	\$300.00
Saturday Morning Baby - Opening	\$400.00
Cremation Grave - Opening	\$250.00
Saturday Morning Cremation Grave - Opening	\$325.00
Vault Fee for Cremation Remains	\$120.00
Dis-Interment Preparation	\$600.00
Dis-Interment of Ashes Preparation	\$250.00

(A \$250 surcharge is added to each service for snow/frost removal.)

Grave Price List

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**Full Burial Lots - (Must purchase 2 side by side lots for upright headstone installations)**

***Resident***

Perpetual Care	\$350.00
Grave	\$250.00
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	\$600.00

***Former-Resident (requires approval prior to purchase)***

Perpetual Care	\$350.00
Grave	\$550.00
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	\$900.00

**Cremation Lots**

***Resident***

Perpetual Care	\$350.00
Grave	\$250.00
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	\$600.00

***Former-Resident (requires approval prior to purchase)***

Perpetual Care	\$350.00
Grave	\$550.00
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	\$900.00

APPENDIX B

CEMETERY HEADSTONE INFORMATION

Must have 2 adjacent lots to install an UPRIGHT Headstone

*\*MONUMENT & FOUNDATIONS - ARE BUILT BY MONUMENT COMPANY*

\*SPECS: HEIGHT - **3 FT HIGH (BASE & DIE EQUAL 3 FT)**  
DEPTH - **14" UP TO 16"**

1 GRAVE LOT SIZE IS: 42" Width by 8' Length

Grave Widths

Memorial Width:

UPRIGHT STONE MONUMENTS

<b>2 GRAVES (side by side) - 84"</b>	<b>Up</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>36"</b>
<b>WIDTH</b>			
<b>3 GRAVES (side by side) - 126"</b>	<b>Up</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>42"</b>
<b>WIDTH</b>			
<b>4 GRAVES (side by side) - 168"</b>	<b>Up</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>84"</b>
<b>WIDTH</b>			

INDIVIDUAL GRAVES – FLUSH MARKERS ONLY

\*\*\*\*\*FLUSH MARKER(S) SIZES:

**21 INCHES WIDE (MAXIMUM)**  
**24 INCHES IN LENGTH (MAXIMUM)**