



## POLICY MANUAL

**POLICY NAME:** Cemetery Rules and Regulations

**POLICY NUMBER:** 5040

### **DEFINITIONS**

As used in these regulations the following terms shall have the following meanings:

1. "Board" shall mean the Board of Trustees of the Temecula Public Cemetery District.
2. "District" shall mean the Temecula Public Cemetery District.
3. "General Manager" shall mean the General Manager of The Temecula Public Cemetery District.
4. "Site Certificate Holder" shall mean one that has purchased interment rights.

### **CARE OF GRAVES AND CEMETERY GROUNDS**

The complete control of the cemetery grounds in "every regard" is vested in the Board of Trustees. Certificate holders and others are entitled only to such privileges within the ground as are provided by these rules and regulations.

Rules set forth regulating the general care of the grave sites and cemetery grounds.

1. Fresh cut flowers may be placed in flower vases purchased by the certificate holder. Not more than two vases shall be permitted on any one grave. Flowers are removed for mowing every Thursday, weather permitting. Any unauthorized containers will be removed and disposed of by the District personnel.
2. No persons shall cut or gather flowers or remove plants on any cemetery site other than their own.
3. No persons shall cut or gather flowers or remove plants for personal use from the cemetery property.
4. Children must be under the control of their adult companion.
5. Except for the excavation for the completion of an interment, no person shall remove any earth or in any way damage the cemetery grounds or leave grass, earth or rubbish of any kind. Rubbish must be placed in trash receptacles provided throughout the cemetery grounds for that purpose.
6. If any tree, shrub, plant or vine situated around or on any site, shall by reason of root, branches or height, or otherwise become detrimental or unsightly to adjacent sites, paths, streets or the cemetery grounds. District personnel may remove or trim such trees, shrub, plant or vine as deemed necessary.
7. No person shall burn any combustible material within the cemetery grounds.
8. The Board reserves the right to make improvements to any site or to any public portion of the cemetery grounds at any time with the expense to be paid by the District.
9. No helium/mylar balloons, (State Ordinance SB 1990) No metal stakes, glass containers, alcoholic beverages, candles, ammunition, firearms, no metal or glass solar lights may be placed on or around a grave location. They will be removed and disposed of immediately.
10. Granite benches purchased by certificate holders for the Temecula Public Cemetery District will be placed in designated areas throughout the cemetery by district personnel but not necessarily located near the interment site(s). The District does not guarantee the placement of a bench in the cemetery for an indefinite period of time. The District is fully vested in the right to remove

benches that may become dangerous or unsightly. The bench location chosen is only guaranteed to purchaser when the bench, endowment, setting fee and site location is paid in full.

## **MEMORIAL MARKERS**

1. Memorial markers must be made of solid industry standard granite or U.S. standard bronze. All memorial markers hereafter shall be set by District personnel.
2. See updated marker rules and regulations.

## **INTERMENTS**

1. All graves will be dug to a depth, which allows a minimum of 18 inches of dirt to be placed on top of all vaults or liners or cremated remains containers. All single adult graves shall be dug to a depth of five feet at the center. The lower tier of a dual interment shall be dug to a depth of seven feet at the center. Infant burials shall be dug to a depth of forty-eight inches at the center. Cremation sites shall be dug to a minimum depth of thirty inches.
2. A minimum container of cloth covered wood casket with handles is required for all interments except for cremated remains.
3. A durable container is required for all cremation interments.
4. Standard vaults must be used for all interments except for cremations.
5. A maximum of two cremations may be placed in an in-ground cremation site if applicable. Cremation vaults are not required.
6. A maximum of two cremations may be placed in a cremation niche, within the wall.
7. A maximum of six cremations may be placed in an adult size grave.
8. Except for pre-installed vaults, a maximum of one cremation may be placed in an adult sized grave which is being used or is intended to be used for one full casket burial.
9. Cremated remains may not be placed on top of the pre-installed vaults at the Temecula Public Cemetery.
10. Commingling of cremated remains in the Temecula Public Cemetery District Ossuary means that there can never be a removal/recovery of these said cremated remains.
11. No interment shall be made on any of the following days: Saturday, Sunday, New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Lincoln's Birthday, Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve.
12. Interments begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 2:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. See manager for prior approval.
13. No grave shall be graded or mounded, and the top of the grave shall be level with the surrounding lot when fully settled.
14. No service in connection with interment will take place until charges for such services as fixed by the Board of Trustees have been paid 72 hours in advance to the District.
15. Except when ordered by a court, disinterment will be at the discretion of the General Manager. When directed, District personnel will open the grave with the assistance of a local mortuary and disinter the casket. The assisting mortuary will then assume responsibility for the casket. The District shall not be financially responsible for removal of the casket or damage to the vault casket or remains.

## **FEES AND CHARGES**

The Board shall establish District fees. A general price list of the current fees shall be available for inspection at all reasonable hours in the cemetery office.

1. The Board shall establish the amount to be paid for deposit into the Endowment Care Fund in accordance with **Section #9065** of the California Health and Safety Code. Such amounts paid into the Endowment Care Fund are not refundable.
2. Non-Resident fees shall be charged per interment of persons not living or paying property taxes within the District's boundaries at the time of their death in accordance with **Section #9061** of the Health and Safety Code.

## LEGAL PROVISIONS

In addition to the provisions established by law for the operation of the District's cemetery the following rules and regulations shall apply:

1. Interment in the District's cemetery shall be limited in accordance with **Section #9060** of the California Health and Safety Code as it now exists or may be hereafter amended. For the purpose of these rules and regulations members of the family of a resident or property taxpayer of the District or former resident or property taxpayer of the District or former resident or property taxpayer of the District who purchased interment right while resident or property taxpayer of the District are defined as any spouse, by marriage or otherwise, child or step-child, by natural birth or adoption, parent, brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister, parent-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, nephew, niece, aunt, uncle, first cousin or any person denoted by the prefix "grand" or "great" or the spouse of any of these persons.
2. Each certificate holder shall be issued a certificate of *BURIAL RIGHTS*. The interest acquired by such purchase shall not be an interest in real property but shall simply be the revocable right granted to the certificate holder to use said site for interment purposes only in accordance with these rules and regulations. A certificate holder may make an assignment of interment rights to members of the purchaser's family as defined in the California Health and Safety Code. Said assignment may be made by the certificate holder by will or inheritance.
3. If a certificate holder has no further need for the interment right, they may, by written application to the District, sell his/her certificate back to the District for the original purchase price less the Endowment.
4. Burial rights cannot be sold by the certificate holder and will not be accepted by the District from anyone other than the legal certificate holder.
5. No certificate holder shall allow any interment to be made with his/her site for compensation.

## LIABILITY

1. The District, its Board, all individual members of said Board, the General Manager and all other personnel of the District shall not be responsible for injury or damage suffered by any persons in their use of the cemetery grounds. Any person visiting the cemetery shall do so at his/her own risk.
2. The Board shall employ a General Manager and such other employees as it may determine to be necessary in the operation of the District.
3. All rules and regulations previously adopted and inconsistent with the foregoing are hereby repealed.
4. Temecula Public Cemetery District is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged markers, flower vases, benches or any personal memorabilia brought in by family or friends of the deceased.
5. The rules and regulations shall be reviewed annually.