

Fairview Cemetery

Brownstown, IN 47220



Rules & Regulations

HOURS

Hours of Visitation at Fairview Cemetery shall be determined by the Cemetery Board, and may be subject to change by the Board. The cemetery hours for visitation shall be from dawn to dusk, daylight hours only, seven days a week.

BUSINESS

All business with the cemetery shall be done with the cemetery superintendent by appointment only. All business having to do with purchases, opening and closing of graves, maintenance, suggestions and other necessary business shall be done with the superintendent by contacting the cemetery at the email address listed on the website.

CEMETERY MAINTENANCE

The general maintenance of Fairview Cemetery, designed to improve and maintain its appearance and condition, shall be the responsibility of the town of Brownstown, Indiana. The town shall be responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of all driveways, buildings, fences, spring and fall cleanup, the general periodic mowing of grass and raking leaves.

GENERAL POLICY

The responsibility and authority for interpreting and enforcing these rules and regulations rest with the Fairview Cemetery Board and management of the cemetery.

Items of historical value or other significance that are currently on the cemetery grounds and which enhance the cemetery may remain in place even though they do not strictly follow current policies. The responsibility for interpreting these standards shall remain with the Fairview Cemetery Board and the cemetery superintendent.

Items which are left on cemetery grounds and which may deem to present a hazard to the general public or maintenance crews, or may be contrary to community standards, in the opinion of the Cemetery Board, will be removed by the cemetery staff without notice.

Temporary Markers

Fairview Cemetery allows temporary markers on graves. These markers are sometimes provided by funeral homes. Temporary markers are not removed until a permanent marker or monument is installed. However, temporary markers deteriorate, and Fairview Cemetery accepts no responsibility to furnish, maintain or replace temporary markers. Families who wish to keep temporary markers should retrieve them before the permanent marker is installed.

Holiday Decorations

Fairview Cemetery provides for families to celebrate the holidays by placing extra decorations on graves. The cemetery will take reasonable care, but will not be responsible for any damage or theft. Items will be moved to accommodate burial services when necessary. Please do not use sentimental or valuable items on the graves. And, please, do not decorate early or fail to retrieve the decorations immediately following the holiday. Decorations removed after the holiday by cemetery grounds keepers will be discarded.

In addition, families with cultural backgrounds which celebrate other holidays, or any other special days such as birthdays or anniversaries may place extra decorations on the graves for these special days. These decorations may remain for three days after the stated holiday. Decorations removed after the holiday by grounds keepers will be discarded.

CEMETERY ACTIVITIES *PROHIBITED OR LIMITED*

- Planting Trees & Shrubs Prohibited - no trees or shrubs shall be planted on any lot by any person or persons in Fairview Cemetery, with the exception of grounds keepers under the direction of the Cemetery Board. Grounds keepers may remove existing trees and shrubs if detrimental to the maintenance of the lot.
- Grading & Care of Lots - No person shall do any grading to cause the surface of the ground to be raised above the existing height of the surrounding area, with the exception of grading by grounds keepers under the direction of the Cemetery Board. Only a licensed contractor shall discharge any chemical or organic fertilizer, herbicide or other substance on any cemetery lot.
- Curbing & Fencing - No enclosure of any nature will be allowed on cemetery lots.
- No person shall wound, kill or capture any type of bird or animal, or remove the young of any bird or animal or the eggs of any bird or animal within the limits of the cemetery under penalty of the law.
- Visitors are prohibited from plucking any plants, whether cultivated or wild, or unnecessarily disturbing any bird or animal, or breaking or injuring any tree or shrub, or marring any monument or landmark, or in any way defacing cemetery grounds, fences or buildings thereon.
- Sitting or standing upon monuments or markers is strictly prohibited.
- No advertising of any type or form shall be permitted on cemetery grounds.
- No dogs, leashed or unleashed, shall be allowed within the cemetery. Only personal aid dogs are exempt from this limitation.
- No alcoholic beverages or illegal substances are permitted within the cemetery.

- No ball playing, roller skating, sledding, or mini bikes, go-carts, or skate boards are allowed in the cemetery.
- No persons, paid or volunteer, shall use the cemetery grounds as an instruction area in the use and operation of motor vehicles.
- No tripods or wooden or metal pipe frames may be erected on cemetery lots.
- No person shall discharge any firearms within the cemetery, except for military funerals or Memorial Day exercises.
- No person shall be permitted to enter or leave the cemetery grounds except by public access road.
- Motor vehicle speeds in excess of 10 mph will not be permitted within the cemetery. No person shall drive or ride upon the lawns or grounds other than on designated roadways. Persons visiting the cemetery are asked to use the roads provided to access cemetery lots. All-terrain and recreational vehicles are not permitted on cemetery grounds.
- Any person acting in a boisterous, obscene or loud manner, or in any way improper to the sanctity of the cemetery grounds, may be expelled from the cemetery.
- All persons are reminded that the cemetery grounds are sacredly devoted to the burial of the dead, and that the provisions stated within, and penalties of the law, shall be strictly enforced.

General Provisions

- Fairview Cemetery is not responsible for any accident or injury that may occur to persons or property in the cemetery. Visitors are reminded that cemetery ground may be uneven and cemetery equipment can be dangerous. Fairview Cemetery is not responsible for missing or stolen flowers, decorations or other items.
- Fairview Cemetery reserves the right to deny the use of its facilities to or to prosecute any person the Cemetery Board or superintendent deems not to be acting in the best interest of the cemetery. The superintendent has, by law, the authority of a peace officer within the jurisdiction in which the cemetery is situated.
- Fairview Cemetery may deny access to media persons or others at the request of an affected family. Access may also be denied if, in the judgement of the cemetery staff, the presence of such persons would be detrimental to the physical or emotional well being of a family or cemetery employees. Cemetery permission is required for commercial photography or other commercial uses of the cemetery grounds.

Floral, Marker, Monument, Decoration Provisions

- Cut flowers may be placed on any grave in a pot made of heavy material and placed at the end of the marker or monument. All faded or withered flowers shall be removed when the lots are mowed.
- Shepherd Hooks will NOT be allowed on cemetery lots.
- Funeral designs and floral pieces shall be removed from the graves when they become

wilted or unsightly. Persons desiring to retain the floral pieces or designs must remove them within 48 hours after the interment. The cemetery shall not be responsible for discarded flowers.

- All floral baskets, designs and wreaths shall be removed from graves when they become unsightly.
- Winter decorations, such as wreaths and grave blankets, shall be allowed to remain in place during the winter season while the grass is dormant, but these items shall be removed from grave sites on or before April 1st.
- All decorations must be removed no later than 15 days after Memorial Day. If not removed, grounds keepers shall remove all loose objects interfering with mowing operations.
- Artificial flowers which are not in pots of heavy material, and artificial ornaments are not permitted on the cemetery grounds.
- Fairview Cemetery maintains a water station to use when watering potted live flowers.
- Other Prohibited Items for Graves: Shepherd hooks, poles, flags, (except on Memorial Day) banners, crosses, wreaths and vases with prongs & other items stuck in the ground; wicker baskets or flower containers of glass, household plastic, or metal; windblown, loose, out of season, deteriorated or weathered flowers; toys, ornaments, ceramics, angels, candle rings and garden stepping stones; items taped, glued, wired, or attached to markers, monuments, vases or lights, except permanent emblems and photos; figurines of any type, size or material which are not part of the monument design; styrofoam or plastic novelty items, whether stuck in the ground, in a vase, or stuck to a marker; food of any type, or used or deteriorated urns; eternal lights; vases and pots.

Definitions

- A “lawn basket” - is a traditional antique wire or metal container on legs, usually lined with moss and specifically made to grow live flowers. It is not wicker, string, plastic or wood basket which might be found in a home.
- A “vase” - is a small flower container intended to hold fresh cut or artificial flowers. Permanently installed vases need to be of granite, marble, or heavy metal manufactured for cemetery use. They may be attached to the ends of the granite monument base. Do not use light weight plastic or glass vases.
- A “pot” - is made of clay or other heavy material. It will be larger than a vase and it may be used on the monument base to grow live flowers in place of a permanent vase.
- An “urn” - is larger than a vase or pot and is usually made of concrete or other heavy material. It is traditionally used to grow live flowers.
- A “monument saddle” - is a traditional arrangement of flowers made to be clamped on top of a two-piece monument. Monument saddles are not designed to clamp onto bevel markers and frequently blow away. Other items glued or wired to the top of any monument or marker are NOT allowed.

- A “shepherd hook” - is a heavy metal post of any shape intended to hold an item in the air. Shepherd hooks or poles of any type, size, or shape are not allowed in any part of the cemetery. (Note: Shepherd Hooks not allowed after April 15, 2007)
 - The “memorialization location” - is that end of each grave designated by the cemetery for the marker and any other memorialization items such as flower urns.
 - The “standard vase location” - is traditionally the end of a base of a monument extending past the tablet. Some markers may be designed to allow a different location for a vase.
 - A “bevel” marker - is a one piece, wedge-shaped granite grave marker usually about 8 inches high in the back. It is not suitable for statuary or a monument saddle. Permanent cases with a specially designed wedge may be professionally attached to a bevel marker. A vase, pot or urn may be installed on the ground next to the bevel marker.
 - A “slant” marker - is similar to a bevel marker, but is usually 16 inches high. It is not suitable for a permanent case or statuary. A vase, pot or urn may be installed on the ground next to the slant marker.
 - A “monument” - is a grave marker made of two or more pieces. Traditionally, it has a flat granite base, a tablet, plinths, and other parts. It can be designed to be suitable for permanent vases, statuary, a monument saddle or flower containers.
 - A “temporary marker” - may be provided by the funeral home at time of the service. This small temporary marker is intended only to mark the grave until the family has an opportunity to select and install a permanent grave marker.
 - A “statuary” - as used in a cemetery is planned as a part of the monument and is professionally installed. It is made of granite, marble, limestone or bronze and is a permanent and integral part of the monument. Added figurines, either loose or glued, of plastic, ceramic, glass, concrete, composite or wood are NOT “statuary” and are NOT allowed on bronze or granite markers.
 - “Floral accessories” used as an accent in flower arrangements must be in scale with the flowers and vase. These accessories do not include large statues, large toys, or other items out of scale. They may include small flags, small solar lights, angels on sticks, or other items within scale of the vase & flowers.
 - “Emblems” - to be used on monuments or bronze markers must be of bronze and must be professionally installed. They can be provided by the cemetery, monument dealers, the veterans’ administration or fraternal organizations.
 - “Permanent photos” - to be used on monuments or bronze markers must be manufactured for cemetery use and must be professionally installed.
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