

## **RULES & REGULATIONS FOR CEMETERIES**

Newton Township, Trumbull County, Ohio

The Management of the public cemeteries in Newton Township, Trumbull County, Ohio is under the auspices of the Newton Township Trustees, O.R.C. 517.06. There are seven cemeteries: Duck Creek, Lutheran, Pricetown, Newton Falls-East, Newton Falls-West, St. Michael's and Wilderson. Trustees have the right to amend regulations on the use of the cemeteries at any time.

At this time, lot space is available for sale only in the Lutheran, St. Michael's and Newton Falls-West cemeteries. Those who purchase a group of lots decades ago will find that today's caskets require more space and the number of available lots may have been reduced.

### **I. GENERAL GUIDELINES**

#### **Part A. Purchasing a Cemetery Lot**

1. All cemetery lots are sold for Newton Township by the cemetery Sexton at prices, which are periodically adjusted by the Trustees. Prices vary between types of lots for upright or flat monument accommodations. To arrange an appointment to discuss the purchase of a lot, contact Mike Hall, Cemetery Sexton, at the Newton Township Administration Building, Cemetery Sexton Office (330) 872-0003.
2. The Trustees reserve the right to limit the number of lots sold per family.
3. Funeral Directors can arrange the purchase of a lot from the Township as part of a funeral arrangement.
4. Lots can be transferred or re-sold to an immediate family member. Immediate family member is defined as: father, mother, son, daughter, grandparent, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law. In all other instances, lots can only be sold by the cemetery Sexton for the Trustees.
5. An unused lot can be returned to the Trustees for its original purchase price, as required by law.
6. By law, pets are prohibited from being buried in any of these cemeteries.

#### **Part B. Opening a Grave**

1. Only a licensed Funeral Director may contact the cemetery Sexton for a grave opening.
2. Costs for grave openings are set by the Township Trustees. The cost of a grave opening depends on the resident status of the deceased. Non-residents pay a higher rate. The determination of residency status is at the discretion of the Township Trustees. Typically, if an individual has made a permanent address change outside the village or township, that person would be considered a non-resident, even if the lot was purchased when the individual was a resident.

#### **Part C. Cremains**

1. Cremains in an appropriate container can be buried on a single lot or on one occupied by a family member.
2. Arrangements and costs for the burial of cremains are obtained from the cemetery Sexton by contacting the Newton Township Administration Building, Cemetery Sexton Office (330) 872-0003.

#### **Part D. Cemetery Hours**

Hours of public access to all cemeteries in Newton Township are from dawn to sundown unless otherwise restricted or approved by the Newton Township Trustees.

#### **Part E. Chapels**

Use of the St. Michael's Cemetery chapel must be arranged with the cemetery Sexton. There is an \$85 rental fee, but this fee will be waived for those St. Michael's Church parishioners who have lots purchased in the cemetery prior to Dec. 31, 2007. A letter from the parish is required to document parish membership.

The chapel at the Newton Falls East Cemetery is currently under renovation. Use of this facility is limited and must be arranged by contacting the Newton Township Cemetery Association at (330) 872-0236.

## **II. ALL CEMETERIES, EXCEPT NEWTON FALLS-WEST (SECTION E)**

#### **Part A. Specifications**

1. The dimensions of a grave for burial are 36 inches x 8 feet.
2. The size of an upright monument for a double grave cannot exceed a maximum of 14 inches x 56 inches. On a single grave, the monument cannot exceed a maximum of 14 inches x 30 inches. Upright monuments will not exceed a height of 36 inches.
3. Peat moss or mulch must not exceed 12 inches in front of the monument.

#### **Part B. Growing Season Decorations**

1. Artificial decorations are not permitted except for Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, and Father's Day. They must be removed five days after each holiday.
2. After the adoption of these guidelines, no flowers, vases, urns, or any growth on the side or rear of the monuments are permitted.
3. No shrubs, bushes, trees, wood chips, decorative stones/gravel or border ornaments/fixtures are permitted around the monuments.
4. At the upright monuments, planted flowers, fresh cut flowers in vases and urns, or potted flowers are permitted on the dates listed in Part B. #1. They must not extend over 12 inches in front of the monument or beyond the monument length.
5. One American flag in a holder or a vigil light is permitted if properly maintained. Assessment of improper maintenance will be at the discretion of the Newton Township Trustees.

6. April 1st through May 1st is general clean up time for the cemeteries. All decorations you wish to keep must be removed by you prior to April 1st.

**Part C. Non-Growing Season Decorations**

1. The non-growing season is October 1st through April 1st.
2. Artificial flowers, wreaths and crosses are permitted. They must not extend over 12 inches in front of the monument and beyond the monument length.
3. Any decorations deemed unsightly or interfering with normal maintenance as determined by the Newton Township Trustees will be removed.

**III. NEWTON FALLS CEMETERY-WEST (SECTION E)**

**Part A. Specifications**

1. Effective January 25, 1988, above ground memorials will not be permitted. Only flat, ground level memorials will be permitted in this section.
2. The dimensions of a grave site for burial are 36 inches x 8 feet.
3. The size of a flat monument for a double grave cannot exceed a maximum of 14 inches x 56 inches. On a single grave site, the flat monument cannot exceed a maximum of 14 inches x 30 inches.
4. Peat moss or mulch must not exceed 12 inches in front of the monument.

**Part B. Decorations**

1. No planted flower in the ground are permitted at the flat monuments.
2. Fresh cut or artificial flowers in reversible urns are permitted at all times. Arrangements will be removed when they become unsightly, at the discretion of the Newton Township Trustees.
3. Potted flowers and plants are permitted 5 days before Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, and Father's Day. These urns or pots of live flowers must not exceed 40 pounds in total weight and must be removed 5 days after each of these holidays.
4. Winter wreaths not exceeding a total height of 36 inches and blankets are permitted November 1st to April 1st.
5. No shrubs, bushes, trees, decorations stones, wood chips, or border ornaments/fixtures are permitted around the monuments.
6. Making holes in the sod to hold containers or vases in place is not permitted.
7. Glass containers and wire pins cannot be used since they can be hazards while mowing.
8. Peat moss or mulch must not exceed 12 inches in front of the monument.

9. April 1st through May 1st is the general clean up time for the cemeteries. All decorations you wish to keep must be removed by you prior to April 1st.

#### **ST. MICHAEL'S CEMETERY**

On January 22, 2007, the Newton Township Board of Trustees adopted the following resolution regarding the rules, regulations, and costs pertaining to St. Michael's Cemetery:

#### **RESOLUTION #010701**

Be it resolved that the Newton Township Board of Trustees has accepted possession of St. Michael's Cemetery located on Newton Tomlinson road in Newton Township, as per the request of the governing diocese of St. Michael's Church.

May it also be resolved that the Newton Township Board of Trustees as of this date will apply all rules, regulations, residency requirement, costs of graves, and opening and closing costs, which are already in effect to St. Michael's Cemetery with the exception of those who are current parishioners of St. Michael's Church in Newton Falls. These parishioners will be charged resident rates, until December 31, 2007, regardless of where they reside.

May it also be resolved that a rental fee of \$85.00 will be charged to anyone wishing to use the chapel located at St. Michael's Cemetery with the exception of the parishioners of St. Michael's Church located in Newton Falls. These parishioners will be exempt from said fee if their lots are purchased before December 31, 2007.

Any parishioners who live outside of Newton Township (Newton Falls City is part of Newton Township) have until December 31, 2007, to purchase lots at St. Michael's Cemetery at the resident rates. Those who currently have lots, and those who purchase lots prior to December 31, 2007, will not have to pay the \$85.00 rental fee to use the chapel. These parishioners will be required to provide a letter from the parish documenting they are parishioners of St. Michael's Church.