

Woodstock Information and Policies for
Parker Cemetery
Pondfield Cemetery
Woodstock Cemetery

General Regulations

A cemetery is meant to be a quiet and dignified repository for loved ones. Any activity which detracts from this atmosphere, or abuses or damages the property, will not be allowed.

Please note the following:

1. If you would like to clean a monument in your lot, please contact the Sexton for instructions on cleaning techniques that will not harm the monument.
2. NH law does not permit any gravestone rubbing unless permission is obtained first from the Town Selectpersons or their designee. (Section 289:22, New Hampshire State Statutes)
3. Injuring or defacing any monument, stone, structure, fence or property within the Cemeteries is a violation of New Hampshire law. Perpetrators will be prosecuted.
4. Woodstock has a leash law, and owners must remove their pet's waste from the Cemetery.

Access and Traffic

1. Walkers are permitted at any time, but need to be aware of changeable or difficult walking conditions, and understand that walking in the cemeteries is at one's own risk.
2. No person shall operate a vehicle in the Cemetery except on roads and designated driving areas. Speed limit is 10 miles per hour.

Burial Lots

1. Purchasing a lot does not give ownership, but grants the right to be buried.
2. Non-residents must show ties to the town in order to purchase a lot.

Greenery and Decorations

1. Planting flowers is only permitted within one foot of a monument. Flower maintenance, including watering, is the responsibility of the lot owner.
2. Planting shrubs or trees is discouraged within lots as many have branches or roots that encroach on neighboring lots, damage memorials and often make lots unusable due to expanding roots and branches. Such plantings will be removed at the discretion of the Sexton or Trustees.
3. The Sexton endeavors to prune existing and approved trees and shrubs, but will not water or fertilize.
4. The Trustees reserve the right to remove any flowers, trees, shrubs, or plants if they become overgrown, unsightly, invasive or make mowing and maintenance more difficult.
5. Placing plastic flowers, floral displays, seasonal items or personal mementos sometimes creates a maintenance hazard and can become unsightly. Cemetery staff will remove these items at their discretion.
6. All summer decorations will be removed no later than Oct 12th, after that date they will be removed by the staff.

7. All winter decorations will be removed no later than May 1st, after that date they will be removed by the staff.
8. Plant hangers must be placed right next to the headstone.

Monuments

1. Consult with the Cemetery Sexton before the installation of any monument.
2. The cost of monuments, as well as installation and maintenance, is the sole responsibility of the lot owner.
3. Upright monuments must have a proper foundation to maintain the upright and in its safe and proper position.
4. No monument or headstone will be erected unless it rests on a foundation built of solid masonry, with good cement, a minimum of two feet deep as specified by the Cemetery.
5. Fences and similar structures are no longer allowed to be installed around lots.

Burials

1. Burials are generally performed May 1st- November 1st, but depend greatly on the weather and ground conditions.
2. The Woodstock Sexton or a Trustee must be contacted to arrange for a burial, and must be on site for all burials.
3. There are fees and paperwork associated with burials. Rates and contact information may be found at the town office.
4. A concrete vault is required for traditional full burials, per State Law. For cremations, containers are required, but vaults are optional.

Maintenance

1. The Town does not accept Perpetual Care funds.
2. General Cemetery maintenance is directed by the Trustees, and performed by the Sexton or a designee.
3. Some historic monuments may be repaired or maintained by the Town due to historic Perpetual Care Agreements, or in order to keep up the general maintenance of the Cemeteries.

Enforcement and Authority

1. The State has laws that govern Cemeteries (RSA 289).
2. The elected Trustees are empowered under (RSA 289:7),1(a) to enforce all Rules and Regulations.
3. The Trustees reserve the right to amend these Rules & Regulations.

Approved 10/12/22 by Woodstock Trustees