

TOWN OF DIXFIELD CEMETERY REGULATIONS

(Amended March 1, 2015 by Board of Selectmen)

The Town of Dixfield maintains and operates various cemeteries to provide sites for the burial of those persons choosing to purchase lot rights in said cemeteries and to provide, as a public entity, long-term care and maintenance for said cemeteries.

Whenever in these regulations the phrase "Lot Owner" appears, it is understood to mean persons who have obtained the right in perpetuity to be interred (be buried) in a specific lot and not full property rights.

Lot ownership designates the exclusive privilege, granted by proper authority (Town of Dixfield) in consideration of cash value received (payment of said lot and perpetual care).

Cemetery lot purchase is restricted to residents, members of residents' immediate families and Dixfield property taxpayers only.

The Town retains Fee Simple Title to the land on which all burial lots are situated and has the uncontestable right to determine by regulation what is and/or is not permissible on said lots.

PERPETUAL CARE: Perpetual Care as used in these rules shall be defined as follows:

- Mowing and trimming of grass;
- Filling in of grave settlements;
- Reseeding of lots as needed;
- Pruning of shrubbery and trees; and
- At its discretion, the Town as part of its general cemetery maintenance activities, may straighten and/or support older stones in such a manner as to promote the proper overall maintenance and appearance of its cemeteries

OPENED FOR BURIAL ACTIVITY: The municipal cemeteries will open for burial activity on or about the 1st of April when ground conditions in the cemetery permit. Should wet conditions exist after this date in any portion of the cemetery, which in the Board of Selectmen's or the Town Manager's opinion, would result in unacceptable damage from burial activities, they may extend the closure period for the affected portion until conditions improve sufficiently to allow burial activity to begin.

CLOSED FOR BURIAL ACTIVITY: The Board of Selectmen or Town Manager may disallow motor vehicle passage to grave sites if ground conditions, in their judgment, warrant this action. Municipal cemeteries will close for burial activity as of December 1st. This date may be advanced by the Town into November or sooner should severe weather conditions occur or adverse ground conditions exist.

BURIAL ARRANGEMENTS: Burial arrangements will be made through the town Sexton who notifies the Dixfield Town Office. Arrangements may also be made in emergency situations by contacting the Board of Selectmen or their designated representative outside of normal business hours. Whenever possible, two (2) days notice must be provided.

INDIGENT BURIALS: Indigent burials will be carried out in conformance with the Town's General Assistance Ordinance. A grave liner shall be used for said burials.

LOT PRICES: Effective with the adoption of these regulations, cemetery lots will only be sold with the addition of perpetual care fees. Lots may be purchased as follows:

		Total
(1) space lot (one casket or 2 cremains)	\$150.00 plus \$150.00 Perpetual Care	\$300.00
(2) space lot (two casket burials or 4 cremains)	300.00 plus 300.00 Perpetual Care	600.00
(4) space lot (four casket burials or 8 cremains)	600.00 plus 600.00 Perpetual Care	1,200.00

PERPETUAL CARE FUNDS: All perpetual care funds generated from the sale of lots shall be invested in the trust funds of the Town with the income used to fund regular maintenance of the cemeteries.

OWNERSHIP OF LOT: Should the owner of an unutilized lot or portion of a lot no longer desire to own same, the Town may re-purchase it from the owner for the price paid when purchased. Lots may not be resold or otherwise transferred by the original owner to another person.

BURIAL VAULTS: A burial vault will be required for all burials other than cremains. Only human remains may be buried in the municipal cemeteries. No more than one (1) person or the cremains of two (2) persons may be placed in any single lot. No more than two (2) persons or the cremains of four (4) persons may be placed in any 2-spaced lot. No more than four (4) persons or the cremains of eight (8) persons may be placed in any 4-spaced lot.

MONUMENTS AND STONES: A monument may be erected on a lot only when the said lot has been paid for in full. After the installation the dealer, contractor or person responsible for the work must see that all materials and debris are removed from the cemetery. This work must be done in a manner satisfactory to the Town.

Only one monument or stone may be erected on a lot in such location so as not to impede maintenance or mowing activity. The installation of enclosures, fences, raised granite lots and cornerstones (unless the latter are sunk level with or below the surface of the ground) is forbidden. Where a lot sold prior to the effective date of these regulations contains large raised individual grave stones on one or more of its plots, like stones may be installed on the remaining plots in the lot, provided they are in the Town's judgment, similar to or compatible with those previously on the lot. On lots sold after the effective date of these rules, individual markers are permitted. Said markers shall be beveled type not more than eight (8") inches in height at their highest point.

Town of Dixfield

Cemetery Lot Prices

Effective Date: March 1, 2015

Single (1) Space Lot.....	\$ 150.00	
1 casket burial or 2 cremains	<u>150.00</u>	Perpetual Care
	<u>\$ 300.00</u>	
Double (2) Space Lot.....	\$ 300.00	
2 casket burials or 4 cremains	<u>300.00</u>	Perpetual Care
	<u>\$ 600.00</u>	
Four (4) Space Lot.....	\$ 600.00	
4 casket burials or 8 cremains	<u>600.00</u>	Perpetual Care
	<u>\$ 1,200.00</u>	

Approved - Board of Selectmen's December 22, 2014 Meeting

TREES AND SHRUBBERY: No trees or hedges may be planted on any lot. Non-spreading varieties of flowers and shrubbery (four feet or less in height) of a type approved by the Town may be planted in locations approved by the Board of Selectmen or the Town Manager. If however, said flowers and shrubberies are not, in the Town Manager's opinion, properly maintained by the lot owner, said shrubbery and flowers will be removed by the Town.

DECORATIONS AND PLANT CONTAINERS: All decorations and plant containers other than stones, permanent markers and heavy urns must be removed by November 1st of each year. Any such items left after this date will be discarded. Notice of the November 1st date will be published in the newspaper of local circulation and posted two (2) weeks prior to said date. All temporary wreaths, artificial flowers and decorations placed in observance of holidays, i.e., Memorial Day, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Veteran's Day, etc., should be removed at a reasonable time after the holiday. If not removed by the person placing them, they will be discarded by cemetery personnel. Prior to the spring clean-up of cemeteries, a notice will be published advising the public that flowers and decorations will be discarded by cemetery personnel thereby providing persons an opportunity to remove their decorations if they desire.

OPENING AND STORAGE FEES: A fee for opening a grave for a standard vault is as follows:

Science Hill Cemetery	300.00
Severy Hill Cemetery	300.00
Holman Cemetery	300.00
Greenwood Cemetery	300.00
Riverside Cemetery	300.00
For small vault (infant)	100.00
For cremains	100.00

Fees charged for the storage of bodies in the tomb at Greenwood Cemetery for those in transit to cemeteries outside Dixfield are charged by the funeral home.

Adopted Date: December 22, 2014

Carol J. Quinn
Town Manager
Alan Bellini
James R. Zott

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Malcolm Field
Robert L. Daley