City of St Paul, Nebraska

Cemetery Rules and Regulations

Supersedes all previous rules and regulations

1. Within the Elmwood Cemetery, any burial beneath the ground shall have a permanent vault of steel and reinforced concrete type. Vaults may be sealed or unsealed. Vaults are required for beneath-ground body and ash remains.
2. No lot or plot may be defined, or otherwise outlined, by any kind of fence, coping, bricks, railing, hedges, or embankment; nor may any lot or plot be filled above the established grade. No lot or plot may be decorated with trees and shrubs by its owner or by other person.
3. It is the responsibility of the City of St. Paul to seed newly closed burial sites as seasonally appropriate. Burial spaces may be sodded by the owner, at his/her expense, using **prairie-type grass**. The Elmwood Cemetery Sexton shall stake the outer boundaries of the space(s) to be sodded. A Forty-eight (48) hour notice shall be given by the sod layers prior to arrival; **a staking fee will be charged**.
4. The City of St Paul shall have authority to remove any flowers, floral designs, weeds, trees, shrubs, plants, or herbage of any kind from the cemetery when, in the judgement of the cemetery caretaker, they become unsightly, detrimental, or diseased. The expense of the removal of trees, shrubs, or any special planting on graves shall be paid by the lot or plot owner.
5. The City of St. Paul shall have the authority to remove any articles, things, flowers, improvements, benches, decorative arrangements, or lights when, in the judgement of the cemetery caretaker, they become unsightly, a nuisance, or interfere with the proper maintenance of the cemetery. Hoses may be left unattended as long as water is flowing from them; hoses with no water flowing from them must **not** be left unattended. **City employees will remove unattended hoses to the City office to be reclaimed by owners**.
6. The City of St Paul shall not be liable for floral pieces, baskets, frames, in which or to which floral pieces are attached. City of St Paul further shall not be liable for plants, herbage, shrubs or trees, floral vases, benches, lights, or other decorative items of any kind lost, misplaced, or broken or damaged by elements, thieves, vandals, or by other causes beyond its control.
7. Flowers placed on the gravesite at the time of interment shall be left undisturbed after the interment is complete, until final removal under the instruction of the Cemetery Caretaker. When the flowers, and the frames to which they are attached, are removed from the grave, such items may be disposed of by the City of St Paul in any manner it sees fit.
8. Flowers and other items placed on the gravesite during any holiday season shall be removed by owner within seven (7) days or when the items become wilted, discolored, or an eyesore following the holiday. Otherwise the Cemetery Caretaker may begin disposing of these items in order to continue with the maintenance of the cemetery.
9. Military metal markers must be placed as directed by the Elmwood Cemetery Board or they will not be allowed to remain in the cemetery. Flags will be permitted on graves when they are customarily displayed, for the duration of the special occasion.
10. All decorative objects must be on the monument or monument foundation or in line with the monument. Permanent vases are not permitted in the front or in back of the marker or monument. They may be placed to either side. In-ground/reversible vases must be kept upside down during mowing season. They will be allowed upright for the duration of a special occasion. Foot markers are not allowed.
11. Concrete/granite foundations for markers and monuments are required in the entire cemetery. Concrete/granite foundation shall not exceed 26 inches in width. All foundations shall be installed only with the permission, and under the supervision of the Cemetery Caretaker or Sexton They must be kept 1 inch above the lowest established grade, and not exceed the length of the property owned. The Cemetery Caretaker reserves the right to remove any item placed without permission.
12. Any monument company that shall enter the St Paul Elmwood Cemetery for work on markers or monument shall give the Cemetery Caretaker or Sexton 48-hours notice before arrival to complete such work.
13. No more than 2 cremation or 2 burials per cemetery space. No more than 2 cremains per columbarium niche.
14. No glass containers, weapons, ammunition, alcohol cans and bottles, rocks or stones, or anything detrimental to the cemetery as determined by the Elmwood Cemetery Board are allowed in the cemetery.
15. No benches or other large decorative objects shall be placed on any lot, plot or space without written permission by the Elmwood Cemetery Board.
16. **No pets are allowed in the cemetery**.
17. Effective, May 11, 2022, all spaces in Section M, Lot 1259 to Lot 1408, and any new sections opened thereafter, the owner is required to have a concrete/granite foundation that covers the length of the space(s) purchased for markers and monuments. Each space is 4 feet long. For example, if 4 spaces are purchased, the owner is responsible for 16 feet of concrete at the head of the grave.
18. Fixtures must be mounted permanently on the foundation of the monument at either end. They must not intrude on the adjacent owner’s property or obstruct city maintenance.

The following is a list of fixtures:

1. Lamp pole
2. Flag pole
3. Shepherds hook
4. Heart shape hook
5. Any personal metal banner

All fixtures will be inspected by the Cemetery Superintendent. If they do not meet these standards, they will be removed by the City at their discretion.

**City of St. Paul Elmwood Cemetery contacts:**

Records at City Office 308-754-4483

Ron Switzer, Cemetery Sexton, 308-750-1966 (lot purchases, monument placement)

Randy Jerabek, Cemetery Caretaker, 308-750-8753