

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WHITE LAKE  
RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR CEMETERIES**

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07/17/73 Sec. 4.14  
06/27/78 Sec. 4.09,  
03/22/83 Sec. 2.5,  
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Rules & Regulations for Cemeteries

# CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WHITE LAKE RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR CEMETERIES

## ARTICLE I - PREAMBLE

It is the desire of the Township Board of the Township of White Lake to make Oxbow Lakeside, Granger and White Lake Cemeteries a quite, beautiful resting place for departed loved ones. The Township Board of Health believes that in enforcing these rules and regulations it will provide to the greatest possible extent for the preference of lot owners as well as to secure the stability of improvements.

These Rules and Regulations were approved and adopted by the Township Board of Health August 17, 1965.

## ARTICLE II - PURCHASE OF LOTS

- Section 2.01 No lot shall be sold on ground before it has been graded, surveyed, and mapped and the price of each lot fixed by the Board.
- Section 2.02 Persons desiring to purchase lots are invited to visit the cemetery where the Sexton will aid in making a selection.
- Section 2.03 Lots free from all encumbrances are conveyed by deed securing to the purchaser, his or her heirs, burial rights only, subject to the Rules and Regulations that are now in force or may be adopted by the Township Board, but exempt from taxation and liability for debt.
- Section 2.4 No deed will be issued until a lot is fully paid for and if interment is permitted before such time, the Township Board retains the right to refuse future interments or any improvements until any balance due on such lot is fully paid, and in case of persistent default, to remove any body already interred to the single grave section.
- Section 2.5 A deed from the Township Board and its record on the books of the cemetery kept under the direction of the Township Clerk is the only evidence of title of the proprietor recognized by the Board. Therefore sales or transfers of lots by owners shall not be recognized until endorsed on an Assignment Form and noted on the books of the Cemetery. (Amended 03/22/83)

- Section 2.06 It is very important on the decease of an owner or part owner of a lot that the heirs or devisees of such decedent file in the office of the Cemetery, satisfactory evidence of their heirship for the purpose of being recorded in the Cemetery books. Without such proof and record, the right of such persons cannot be recognized.
- Section 2.07 If specific numbers of lots are not available as platted, combinations of smaller lots may be purchased at the applicable quantity price providing said lots are contiguous to each other and to platted larger plots. Larger plots may be split to smaller combinations providing they are contiguous to existing smaller combinations. Available combinations MUST be sold before further combinations or splits are made. (Added 11/28/67)

### ARTICLE III - LOT IMPROVEMENTS AND GENERAL CARE OF CEMETERY

- Section 3.01 To secure the best landscape effects, it is essential that the Board assume the general care of the entire grounds by planting according to plans and specifications.
- Section 3.02 General care does not provide for the care of mausoleums, monuments, grave markers, or any decorative planting which may be placed on lots, but does include the proper care of the sod, such as leveling, grass cutting, etc.
- Section 3.03 Lot owners may have work done, consistent with the rules and regulations, by making arrangements with the Sexton.
- Section 3.04 Improvements within the Cemetery at any time will be performed by cemetery employees under the direction of the Sexton.
- Section 3.05 No lot or grave in Oxbow Lakeside, Granger or White Lake cemeteries shall hereafter be defined by any fence, railing, coping, hedge, embankment or depression nor can trees and shrubs be planted to define corners or boundaries.
- Section 3.06 To prevent injury to adjoining lots and to secure the beauty of the grounds, no trees or shrubs shall be planted on lots or graves, or any tree or shrub cut down, removed or trimmed. Should additional planting be desired by the individual lot owner, permission must be granted in writing by the Board through the Sexton.
- Section 3.07 Planting flowers on graves or otherwise disturbing or destroying the sod, releases the Board from all obligations for resodding the grave at any time, without charge.

- Section 3.08 Lot owners who plant out flowers and then fail to have them properly watered, trimmed and free from weeds, are hereby notified that the Board reserves the right to remove neglected plants from beds, graves, vases and urns as soon as they become objectionable.
- Section 3.09 Arrangements can be made with the Sexton for weeding, watering and general care of plants.
- Section 3.10 The Board has no desire to interfere with the tastes of patrons in regard to the styles of their improvements, but in justice to interest of all, they reserve the right, given them by law, to prevent or remove any structure or object which the Board shall deem injurious to adjoining lots and the general good appearance of the Cemetery.

#### ARTICLE IV - INTERMENTS AND REMOVALS

- Section 4.01 All interments must be accompanied by a burial permit. Orders for interments will be accepted only by persons responsible. The Sexton or one of his assistants will be in attendance and have full charge of all interments within the cemetery.
- Section 4.02 The Sexton can not be held responsible for any mistake occurring from the want of precise instructions for the particular space in a lot where an interment is wanted.
- Section 4.03 Excepting in emergency cases, undertakers or responsible persons must give sufficient time before funerals to allow eight (8) hours of daylight to prepare for a burial. All graves will be opened by employees of the Cemetery.
- Section 4.04 No lot owner shall be compensated for an interment in his lot, nor shall the removal of remains from a lot be permitted without the written consent of the Board.
- Section 4.05 Sunday or holiday funerals will be accepted but only in rare cases where the family of the deceased is put to great inconvenience to have the funeral on a week day. These cases will be determined by the Sexton.
- Section 4.06 Time for removals will be determined by the Sexton.
- Section 4.07 No grave will be opened for inspection except for official investigation.
- Section 4.08 Interment of two (2) bodies in a single grave is not permitted except in the case of Mother and Infant, or two (2) children buried at the same time. Further exception may be made for separate interments of no more than two (2) children or grandchildren of the same immediate family in a single grave providing caskets are

not more than three (3) feet in length. In this instance only one (1) grave marker may be used for both. (Amended 02/18/69)

- Section 4.09 Simultaneous or separate interment of not to exceed four (4) hermetically sealed urns containing cremated human remains in one grave is permitted when written consent of the owner if filed with the Township prior to the second interment. (Amended 06/27/78)
- Section 4.10 All interments must be enclosed in a burial vault, no wooden boxes. (Added 03/22/83)
- Section 4.11 Interments in crypts or mausoleums must be hermetically sealed immediately.
- Section 4.12 The number of interments that can with propriety be made in any lot is definitely determined at the time of its purchase, and no more will be permitted. It is therefore advised that a lot of sufficient size be purchased as adjoining ground may not be available if desired later.
- Section 4.13 No interments other than human remains can be place in any burial lot.
- Section 4.14 Except where extenuating circumstances will not permit, such as large rocks or tree roots or where sufficient depth cannot be obtained without disturbing an adjacent grave, the minimum cover over the outside container, sealed or otherwise, shall be sixteen (16) inches of earth. (Amended 07/17/73).

## ARTICLE V - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

- Section 5.01 All foundations for headstones, monuments or markers will be built by employees of the cemetery under the direction of the Sexton at the expense of the lot owner or monument dealer. (Added 03/22/83)
- Section 5.02 All headstones, monuments, or grave markers shall be set in the monument space at the head of the grave only. (Added 03/22/83)
- Section 5.03 A monument, marker, or other memorial may not be erected on any lot or grave until all indebtedness on said lot or service is paid in full. (Added 03/22/83)
- Section 5.04 The cemetery gates will be open at daylight and be closed at dark and at such other times as deemed necessary by the Sexton. In no case is anyone allowed in the cemetery after dark.

- Section 5.05 No person is permitted to enter the cemetery except through the gate.
- Section 5.06 Visitors are asked to refrain from all boisterous talking, laughing or jesting and are not permitted to walk promiscuously over or sit upon the lawn except in designated places.
- Section 5.07 Any person injuring or disturbing monumental work, trees, shrubs, birds, animals or anything whatsoever without authority is guilty of a misdemeanor and is liable to punishment by fine or imprisonment, or both.
- Section 5.08 The taking of photographs within the cemetery is prohibited unless permission in writing is granted by the Sexton.
- Section 5.09 Refreshments or liquors will not be allowed within the grounds.
- Section 5.10 All graves shall be made level with the surrounding lawn and in no case shall mounding be permitted.
- Section 5.11 No one but an employee of the Cemetery will be permitted to disturb the sod on lots or graves.
- Section 5.12 It is strictly prohibited to scatter rubbish over the property as containers are placed for disposal of all refuse.
- Section 5.13 No advertisements of any form will be allowed on cemetery property.
- Section 5.14 No children will be permitted in the Cemetery unless attended by some adult person who will be responsible for their conduct.
- Section 5.15 Dogs will not be permitted at any time on the cemetery grounds.
- Section 5.16 Carrying and the use of firearm's within the cemetery is expressly forbidden except for ceremonial use at military service. (Added 03/22/83)
- Section 5.17 Potted plants will be permitted to be placed on lots on holidays and special occasions only by permission of the Sexton. At no time can the sod be disturbed for the placing of such potted plants. The Sexton reserves the right to remove such plants when necessary.
- Section 5.18 Any unsightly vase shall be removed by the Sexton without notice.

Section 5.19 All wooden headboards, iron or metal markers on standards except emblems, tripods, trellises, settees, and also such other items as: ornaments, wire arches, glass cases, metal forms, crockery, fruit jars, tin cans, artificial flowers, toys, burlap blankets, or any other unsightly objects are not permitted upon any lot or grass. It shall be the duty of the Sexton to remove all such objects.

Section 5.20 Bicycle, horseback riding, motorcycle and snowmobile riding within the cemetery grounds is prohibited. Automobiles and other vehicles within the cemetery shall observe the following rules. (Amended 03/22/83)

1. Speed limit is not to exceed 10 miles per hour.
2. Sounding of horns or other warning signals is prohibited.
3. No vehicle shall be turned about on any drive but must continue on to the next turn or crossroad.
4. No driving or parking on the turf or grass is permitted.
5. Passing of committal service is not permitted.

Section 5.21 It is of the utmost importance that there should be a strict observance of all the properties due the cemetery, whether embraced in these regulations or not.

Section 5.22 The by-laws, rules, regulations, prices of lots, and schedule of service prices may be amended or changed at any regular meeting of the Board by a majority vote of all members.