CITY OF PARSONS

CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL GARDENS

RULES AND REGULATIONS (Revised August 31, 2023)

HOURS: SUNRISE TO SUNSET

- THE MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL IS DIRECTED BY THE CEMETERY BOARD
- The day-to-day operations of the cemetery are administered by the City Public Works Department
- The Public Works Department arranges burials, sells interment rights, and maintains the facility
- **FUNERAL HOMES MUST CONTACT PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT BEFORE BURIAL**
- Funeral homes must complete an Interment Order requesting burial services to be arranged

1. Use of facilities and services are subject to the rules and regulations of the cemetery now in force or that hereafter may be adopted by the cemetery Board of Directors
2. The cemetery rules and regulations may be changed without notice to any owner by the cemetery Board of Directors
3. No person other than an employee of the City of Parsons shall be allowed to perform any work on any grave or lot within the grounds without permission from the cemetery manager
4. A charge will be made for use of or reservation of any plot in the cemetery and memorial gardens regardless of whether or not the plot is already marked.

Interment Cost
$200.00 traditional interment (one per plot)
$200.00 (two cremations per plot) allowed in both eastern and western sections of the cemetery
$100.00 per space – one cremation (per 5’ by 5’ space) allowed in a designated area of the eastern section of the cemetery

This charge is due and payable at the time of interment or at the time of reserving the plot, whichever occurs first. This money and your donations will be used for continual maintenance in keeping with a properly maintained cemetery including the cutting of grass and trimming of shrubs and trees at reasonable intervals; the procuring, maintaining and keeping in reasonable condition the machinery, tools and equipment needed for that purpose, and replacing same when necessary; keeping in repair the drains, water lines, roads, buildings, fences and other structures; painting or otherwise preserving same at reasonable periods, maintaining the necessary records of lot ownership and burials, and other necessary information, and making same available to the public authorities and interested persons

5. No more than 4 plots may be reserved by each family. There will be only one (1) interment to each space. There may be two (2) cremations to one space
6. All lots or spaces will be used for human remains only
7. Funeral home tents must be removed no later than seven (7) days after burial
8. All burials, except cremations or infant burials must be in a vault or a grave liner.
9. All markers must be pre-approved prior to placement by the cemetery manager. Call 731-847-6358
10. Head stones must either be on a base stone, or flush with the ground
11. Any plots being reserved or being chosen for immediate use must be selected with the cemetery manager present unless headstone or marker is already in place
12. Plots being reserved must be marked by a stone marker with a name etched into the stone
13. Plots being used must be marked with a permanent headstone. A $150.00 deposit for a standard grave marker for all future interments will be required at time of interment. The deposit will be refunded upon the placement in a timely manner (six (6) months) of a permanent marker or headstone by the surviving family members or representatives. If no marker or headstone has been placed during this period, the Cemetery board may authorize the cemetery manager to order the installation of a $150.00 standard grave marker
14. Any heir to a plot has the responsibility to notify the secretary of the cemetery board if a transfer is in order for the proper recording to be made. Call 731-847-6358
15. The cemetery may require an affidavit of heirship or probated will in order for an individual to claim property of a deceased ancestor
16. The cemetery will accept no responsibility for errors that might inadvertently occur in connection with telephone orders
17. The cemetery will not finance lot purchases
18. TCA 46-1-313. Crimes and offenses (a) No person shall willfully destroy, deface, or injure any monument, tomb, gravestone, or other structure placed in the cemetery, or any roadway, walk, fence or enclosure in or around the same, or injure any tree, plant or shrub therein, or hunt or shoot therein, play at any game or amusement therein, or loiter for lascivious or lewd purposes therein, or interfere, by words or actions, with any funeral procession or any religious exercises. (b) A violation of this section is a Class E felony

PAST PURCHASES

1. Any grave space(s) that have been purchased in the past will not be required to pay new interment fees. Must have a copy of a deed or payment receipt to be grandfathered in.
2. Any donation paid prior to 2008 made to Parsons Cemetery or Parsons Memorial Garden will not be required to pay new interment fees. Must have a copy of the payment record to be grandfathered in.
3. Although not required to do so, you may still make a donation for interment to be used for maintenance and upkeep at the cemetery.

PLOT DECORATIONS

1. No live plants, shrubs, or bushes may be planted in the cemetery
2. No statues, benches, fences, or other articles may be placed in the cemetery except headstones, footstones or temporary grave markers
3. Flowers must, be placed on headstones or in headstone vases except, one (1) week prior to Decoration Day and they must be removed within two (2) weeks after Decoration Day. (The Sunday before Memorial Day in May)
4. All decorations should be removed from the ground prior to mowing season, and none placed until after mowing season each year. Ornaments, figurines, and trinkets are not allowed to be placed on markers at any time
5. Plot lessees and visitors are requested to assist the Cemetery in maintaining the beauty of the lawns by refraining from placing on plots numerous obstacles that hinder proper lawn mowing, thereby increasing the cost of maintenance
6. Discarded flowers may be placed in the flower bin for disposal
7. Glass containers and tin cans will not be allowed to remain on gravesites for cut flowers or watering purposes. Flower receptacles of glass are prohibited, as they are a hazard to cemetery employees and visitors
8. The cemetery will not be responsible for the repair of damaged markers and/ or vases. All pots and urns are to be placed at the side of the memorial marker and not in front or rear for ease of mowing
9. No wooden, cast-iron, concrete, etc. benches or chairs, or wooden or wire trellises or shepherd hooks, shall be permitted to be brought on cemetery grounds
10. All work and plantings of any kind on all lots and graves is strictly prohibited
11. Cut flowers may be used at any time.
12. Flowers must be removed from a new grave and placed in flower bin within two (2) weeks of burial date. These are to be removed by family of deceased. The Cemetery reserves the right to remove all flowers, potted plants, summer wreaths or baskets of flowers when they become withered, or for any reason. Cemetery personnel are to make such removals when in their judgment it is in the best interest of the Cemetery