

Forest Lawn Decoration Policy

ARTICLE V – CONTROL OF WORK BY CEMETERY

Section 1. All grading, landscape work and improvement of any kind, and all care of lots, shall be done, and all trees, shrubs, and herbage of any kind shall be planted, trimmed, cut or removed, and all Interments, disinterments and removals shall be made, only by the Cemetery, or under its supervision or by a vendor hired and approved by the cemetery directly.

Section 2. All improvements, alterations or additions on individual lots in the Cemetery shall be under the direction of and subject to the consent, satisfaction and approval of the Cemetery; and, should they be made without its written consent, the Cemetery shall have the right to remove, alter or change such improvements or alterations at the expense of the lot owner.

Section 3. Contractors engaged in work of any nature on the Cemetery grounds shall not block roadways, unless permission therefor is granted by the Cemetery.

Section 4. The Cemetery reserves to itself and to those lawfully entitled thereto, a perpetual right of ingress and egress over lots, plots, and parts thereof for the purpose of passage to and from other lots, plots, and parts thereof.

ARTICLE VI – DECORATION OF LOTS

Section 1. The Cemetery reserves the right to require that no flower receptacles be placed on lots unless of metal, plastic, clay, bronze, concrete, granite, or similar material approved by the Cemetery, and set wholly above the level of the lawn, except that flower vases which are specifically designed to be stored below ground in a receptacle, that has been approved and installed by the Cemetery, are permitted.

Section 2. The Cemetery reserves the right to remove, add to, or adjust its floral designs, flowers, trees, shrubs, plants, or herbage of any kind. Funeral flowers, wreaths, baskets, floral designs, and similar funeral decorations left at the gravesite following a funeral will be removed and discarded after 24 hours, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

Section 2-a. In the case of special planting or embellishment provided by a lot owner and placed on his or her lot with the approval of the Cemetery, when for good and sufficient reasons it must be cultivated, trimmed or removed, such work may be ordered by the Cemetery at the expense of the lot owner, subject, however, to due notice to such lot owner at the last known post office address appearing on the records of the Cemetery.

Section 3. The Cemetery shall not be liable for damage to or loss of floral pieces, baskets or frames, flower vases or receptacles, or any other tributes, whether organic, artificial temporary, or permanent, that may have been placed on lots, or for any planting damaged by the elements, thieves, vandals or from other causes beyond its control.

Section 4. The Cemetery reserves the right to regulate the method of decorating lots so that a uniformity of landscape treatment may be maintained, and it may prevent the removal of any trees, shrubs, plants, or herbage of any kind. The placing on lots of boxes, metal designs,

ornaments, chairs, settees, glass, wood or iron cases or articles or tributes having a similarity thereto shall not be permitted, and if so placed, they may be removed by the Cemetery without notice.

Section 5. Given the unique natural settings of Section GG and The Last Forest, no decorations or tributes of any kind are allowed, including seasonal decorations of any manner, shape or form, unless the decoration is made of natural flowers or plants no larger than a handheld bouquet. No ribbon, plastic, metal or other non-biodegradable materials are to be used.

ARTICLE VI-A – COMMUNITY MAUSOLEUM & COLUMBARIUM DECORATION

Section 1. The Cemetery reserves the right to regulate the method of decorating crypts and niches in all community mausoleums and columbaria and in order to ensure a dignified and consistent appearance. Please refer to the specific Decoration Policy applicable to each mausoleum or columbarium for rules regarding allowed decoration. A copy of the Cemetery’s Decoration Policies may be obtained from the Cemetery office.

ARTICLE VI-B – SEMI-ANNUAL CEMETERY CLEANUP

Section 1. The Cemetery will perform a comprehensive cleanup of the grounds twice each year, provided that weather and other circumstances permit: during the first two weeks of March and during the first two weeks of October. Thus, March 1 and October 1 are known as “cleanup dates”.

- a. It is the lot owner or visitor’s responsibility to check the gravesite and make sure that any items that they consider to be valuable are removed prior to the cleanup dates.
- b. On the cleanup dates, and for the two weeks following the cleanup dates, all decorations, whether they are approved or not approved, including but not limited to ornaments, lamps, shepherd-crooks, statues, flower pots, decorative stones and similar items, will be removed.
- c. All broken, damaged or disposable items, including plastic flower pots, will be disposed of immediately at the Cemetery’s sole discretion. These items cannot be reclaimed. No notification of removal of an item will be provided.
- d. All items removed from a gravesite by the Cemetery and not disposed of immediately will be taken to the Service Garage at the applicable Forest Lawn cemetery, or other clearly designated area, where they will be held until March 31 for the spring cleanup and October 31 for the autumn cleanup, or until such other dates thereafter as weather and other circumstances permit. No notification of removal of an item will be provided.
- e. It is the lot owner or visitor’s responsibility to check the Service Garage or designated area for any items that have been removed from a gravesite. The lot owner or visitor may retrieve items that have been taken to the Service Garage until the final discard date.
- f. Stone rubbings are only allowed by Cemetery staff or designated professional and insured

qualified Monument dealers approved by the Cemetery. All Memorials in the Cemetery are the private property of the purchaser, lot owners, and heirs. The stability and integrity of memorials and their inscriptions is unknown and unpredictable. Therefore, stone rubbings are strictly prohibited by anyone other than Cemetery staff or Qualified Monument Contractors as described in these Rules and Regulations both out of concern for safety of the person touching the stone and the integrity of the historic Memorial.

ARTICLE VII – CONDUCT WITHIN THE CEMETERY

Section 1. All persons who enter the Cemetery grounds for any purpose whatsoever shall observe proper standards of decorum, respect, and decency while within Cemetery grounds.

Section 2. Within Cemetery grounds, no person shall:

- a. Conduct any Memorial service, ceremony, tour, presentation, or other event without the prior notification and approval of the Cemetery, and without all associated fees having been paid in advance.
- b. Engage in any public assembly, picketing, demonstration or similar conduct.
- c. Make or deliver any speeches or similar conduct to assembled groups of people, unless the oration is part of an approved Memorial service, or a Cemetery sponsored tour, lecture, or presentation.
- d. Display any placards, banners, flags or similar devices within the Cemetery grounds, unless, in the case of a flag use of the same is part of an approved Memorial service or a Cemetery sponsored tour, lecture, or presentation. A properly displayed flag of the United States of America is always permitted in the Cemetery.
- e. Distribute any handbill, pamphlet, leaflet, or other written or printed matter within the Cemetery grounds; except that a program for an approved Memorial service or a Cemetery sponsored tour, lecture, or presentation may be distributed.
- f. Play any radio, tape recorder, or musical instrument, or use any loudspeaker that can be heard within the Cemetery grounds, unless use of the same is part of an approved Memorial service or a Cemetery sponsored tour, lecture, or presentation.
- g. Deposit or throw litter on Cemetery grounds.
- h. Engage in, promote, instigate, encourage, or aid and abet fighting, or threatening, violent behavior.
- i. Utter loud and boisterous language of any kind, in any language, or make other unreasonably loud noises.



**BIRCHWOOD, OAKWOOD, ROSEWOOD, ROSEWOOD ATRIUM
MAUSOLEUM FLOWER POLICY**
Revised March 14, 2013

**THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS POLICY IS TO PERMIT FLORAL TRIBUTES
WHILE MAINTAINING ORDER, CLEANLINESS, FRESHNESS, AND DIGNITY FOR ALL
PERSONS VISITING OUR MAUSOLEUMS.**

- 1) **SILK ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS:** Only silk-like artificial flowers are allowed, and they must only be placed in vases provided by Forest Lawn. Neglected floral tributes will be removed without notice.
- 2) **DRIED OR PLASTIC FLOWERS:** Dried or plastic flowers or wreaths are not permitted, and will be removed without notice.
- 3) **LIVING PLANTS:** Living plants are allowed only during the week before and the week following Easter Sunday, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, and Christmas. Any living plants that remain after those specified holiday periods will be removed without notice. Living plants are not permitted other than during those specified holiday periods, and will be removed without notice.
- 4) **HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS:** Any floral arrangement with an apparent holiday theme or holiday colors, e.g. red flowers at Christmas, will be removed one week after the holiday without notice.
- 5) **OTHER ITEMS:** Photographs, decorative items and statuary are not permitted, and will be removed without notice.
- 6) **FLOORS AND SURFACES:** Nothing may be left on the floor (other than vases obtained from Forest Lawn), or taped to a crypt front or niche front. Any such items will be removed without notice.
- 7) **FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS:** Only one funeral service arrangement may remain until the end of the day of the funeral.
- 8) **BI-ANNUAL CLEANUP:** Between March 1 — March 15, and October 1 – October 15 each year, all remaining floral tributes will be removed without notice. No tributes may be placed during these periods.
- 9) **FOREST LAWN ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ITEMS REMOVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ABOVE POLICY.**

QUESTIONS: If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact the office at 885-1600. Please note that Forest Lawn offers permanent bronze flower lamps and vases for your crypt/niches, and they may be obtained by contacting the office.

THE FOREST LAWN GROUP

Forest Lawn Cemetery
Buffalo, NY

Lakeside Cemetery
Hamburg, NY

Williamsville Cemetery
Amherst, NY

St. Matthew's Cemetery
West Seneca, NY

Forest Lawn Cremation Company
Buffalo, NY

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*Where memories live
and
the stories are told.*

01/2019