

**TOWN OF GRANVILLE
CEMETERY COMMISSION
GRANVILLE CEMETERY REGULATIONS (2010)**

SUMMARY

1. All burials, exhumations, stone placements, and work done in a Town of Granville cemetery must have the approval of the Cemetery Commission. The sexton will record records of all burials with the Town Clerk directly after the burial. All other work will be recorded in the records of the Cemetery Commission.
2. Cement liners or vaults are required for all casket burials.
3. Corner stones are required for all burial sites. Markers shall be obtained and installed as soon as possible by a registered monument company.
4. All graves must be permanently marked. The Cemetery Commission shall approve the size and style of the principal family monument. All markers other than the principal monument shall be at ground level.
5. The cemeteries shall be closed for burials after the first significant snowfall, freezing of the ground, or December 1. Spring opening will be May 1, unless significant conditions exist to delay opening.
6. The right to plant permanent herbage, flowers, shrubs, or trees is the explicit authority of the Cemetery Commission. Any planting done without permission will give the Cemetery Commission the right to remove plantings.
7. All grave decorations will be removed when they become unsightly, and in any case by December 1.
8. The American flag may be displayed on graves and out of respect to the flag will be removed when it becomes faded or tattered.
9. State law regarding damage to burial grounds and historic markers and memorials shall be enforced and persons apprehended for such violations shall be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. Other "inappropriate" activity will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.
10. The sale or resale of any Cemetery lot must be approved by the Commission

LOTS AND PRICES

Full Burial Lot:	9' x 18'	(4 casket or 8 ash)	\$475.00
One Half Burial Lot:	9' x 9'	(2 casket or 4 ash)	\$275.00
Single Burial Lot:	9' x 4.5'	(1 casket or 2 ash)	\$160.00

A full copy of cemetery rules and regulations is available from the Cemetery Commission or Town Clerk.

**TOWN OF GRANVILLE
CEMETERY REGULATIONS**

For the mutual protection of lot owners and the cemetery as a whole, the following rules and regulations have been adopted by the Granville Cemetery Commission as the rules and regulations of the Elmwood, North Hollow, and South Hollow cemeteries and all lot owners and visitors within the cemeteries and all lots sold, shall be subject to said rules and regulations. And subject further, to such other rules and regulations, amendments or alterations as shall be adopted by the Cemetery Commission from time to time and the reference to these rules and regulations in the deed or certificate of ownership to a lot shall have the same force and effect as if set forth in full therein.

SECTION I. DEFINITIONS.

1. CEMETERY

The term cemetery is hereby defined to include a burial park for earth interments, a community mausoleum for vault or crypt interments, a crematory or crematorium and columbarium for cinerary interments, or a combination of one or more than one thereof.

1. CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP

The term certificate of ownership shall apply to the original conveyance given by the cemetery to the original purchaser.

1. COMMISSION

The term commission shall mean the person or persons duly elected by the town for the purpose of conducting and administering the cemetery.

1. INTERMENT

The term interment shall mean the permanent disposition of the remains of a deceased person by cremation and inurnment, entombment or burial.

1. LOT

The term lot shall apply to numbered divisions as shown on the record plat which consist of two or more plots.

1. LOT MARKER

The term lot marker refers to any means used by the cemetery to locate corners of the lot or grave.

1. MARKER

The term marker means a memorial flush with the ground.

1. MEMORIAL

The term memorial shall include a monument, marker, tablet, headstone, private mausoleum or tomb for family or individual use, tombstone coping, lot enclosure, urn and crypt and niche place.

1. MONUMENT

The term monument shall include a tombstone or memorial of granite or marble which shall extend above the surface of the ground.

1. PLOT

The term plot shall apply to a space of sufficient size to accommodate one adult

interment approximately three feet by ten feet.

SECTION II. GENERAL RULES

The Town of Granville, a municipality, organized and existing under the laws of the state of Vermont. It owns and operates Elmwood, North Hollow, and South Hollow cemeteries in accordance with the laws of the state of Vermont. It reserves the right to refuse the use of any of the cemetery(s) facilities at any time to any person or persons whom the commission may deem objectionable to the best interest of the cemetery.

RULE 1

The cemetery will be open during the summer season from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. and the winter season from 8:00 a.m. until dark.

RULE 2

All fees or charges for services are payable at the Town Clerk's office as herein stated and patrons of the cemetery are requested not to pay any fee or gratuity to any cemetery employee.

RULE 3

Persons within the cemetery shall use only the avenues, roads, walks, and alleys, and no one is permitted to walk upon or across lots or lawns unless it is necessary to do so to gain access to one's own lot. The cemetery expressly disclaims liability for any injuries sustained by anyone violating this rule.

RULE 4

Persons visiting the cemetery or attending funerals are prohibited from picking flowers, wild or cultivated, breaking or injuring any tree, shrub, or plant or writing upon, defacing or injuring any memorials, fence, or other structure within the cemetery grounds.

RULE 5

The following are prohibited:

- a. The driving of motor cars or other vehicles through the gates or in the cemetery at excessive speeds.
- b. Driving any motor car, vehicle, or animal across or upon any grave lot or lawn or parking or leaving the same thereon.
- c. Parking or leaving any motor car or vehicle on any road or driveway within the cemetery at such location or in such position as to prevent any other car or vehicle from passing the same and if so parked or left the management will remove the same.

RULE 6

No bicycles or motorcycles will be admitted to the cemetery except such as may be in attendance at funerals or on business.

RULE 7

Children under 15 years of age are not permitted within the cemetery or its buildings, unless accompanied by proper person(s) to take care of them.

RULE 8

Receptacles for waste material are located at convenient places. Hence, the throwing of rubbish on the drives and paths, or any part of the grounds, or in the buildings, is prohibited.

RULE 9

The placing of boxes, shells, toys, metal designs, ornaments, chairs, settees, vases, and similar articles, upon graves will not be permitted and if so placed the management reserves the right to remove them.

RULE 10

It is of the utmost importance that there should be strict observance of properties in the cemetery. Hence, all persons within the cemetery should avoid conduct unbecoming a sacred place:

- a. Loud or boisterous talking.
- b. Idling or loafing on the grounds or in any of the buildings.
- c. Bringing lunches or refreshments into the cemetery or consuming them on the grounds.
- d. Peddling or soliciting the sale of any commodity within the cemetery.
- e. Placing of signs or notices or advertisements of any kind within the cemetery.
- f. Bringing dogs into the cemetery or any of its buildings.
- g. Bringing firearms into the cemetery except by a military escort accompanying a veteran's funeral or attending memorial services.

RULE 11

It is the duty of the management to see that the rules and regulations are complied with and it is his duty to see that order is maintained and to protect the best interests of the cemetery. To that end, he is authorized to make temporary additional rules which may be needed, from time to time, to meet emergencies which are not covered by these rules and regulations.

RULE 12

Special cases may arise in which the literal enforcement of a rule may impose unnecessary hardship. The commission therefore, reserves the right to make exceptions, suspensions, or modifications of any of these rules and regulations, without notice, when in the judgment of the commission such action appears necessary; and such temporary exception, suspension, or modification shall in no way be construed as affecting the general application of such rules and regulations.

RULE 13

The commission hereby expressly reserves the right to adopt additional rules and regulations or to amend, alter or repeal any rule, regulation, article, section, paragraph, or sentence in these rules and regulations, at any time. Sufficient notice will be given by the commission of any rule change that will create expense, hardship, or inconvenience to lot owners or other individuals having business with the cemetery.

SECTION III. LOTS AND LOT OWNERS

RULE 1

Persons desiring to purchase lots should contact the cemetery commissioners who will aid them in making a selection, and will issue a memorandum describing the lot purchased.

RULE 2

Before any burial is made in a grave or lot, complete payment for the grave must be made to the Cemetery Commissioners.

RULE 3

No lot shall be used for any other purpose than for the burial of the human dead.

RULE 4

No easement or right of interment is granted to any lot owner in any road, drive, alley, or walk within the cemetery, but such road, drive, alley, or walk within the cemetery may be used as a means of access to the cemetery or buildings, as long as the commission devotes it to that purpose.

RULE 5

The right to enlarge, reduce, replat, or change the boundaries or grading of the cemetery, or a section or sections, from time to time, including the right to modify or change the locations of or remove or regrade roads, drives, or walks, or any part thereof is hereby reserved. The right to lay, maintain and operate, or alter or change pipe lines or gutters for sprinkling systems, drainage, et cetera, is also expressly reserved, as well as is the right to use cemetery property not sold to individual plot owners for cemetery purposes, including interment of the dead, or for anything necessary, incidental or convenient thereto. The commission reserves to itself to those lawfully entitled thereto a perpetual right of ingress and egress over lots for the purpose of passing to and from other lots.

RULE 6

Descriptions of lots will be in accordance with the cemetery plats which are kept on file in the Granville town office.

RULE 7

The commission will take all reasonable precautions to protect lot owners and the property rights of lot owners, within the cemetery from loss or damage, but the commission disclaims all responsibility for loss or damage from causes beyond its reasonable control, and especially, from damage caused by the elements, an act of God, common enemy, thieves, vandals, strikers, malicious mischief makers, explosions, unavoidable accidents, invasions, insurrections, riots, or order of any military or civil authority, whether the damage be direct or collateral, other than as herein provided.

RULE 8

It is the duty of the lot owner to notify the commission of any change in his post office address.

RULE 9

The instrument of conveyance of these rules and regulations and any amendments thereto constitute the sole agreement between the commission and the lot owner. The statement of any employee or agent unless confirmed in writing by the commission shall in no way bind the commissioners.

SECTION IV. CARE OF LOTS**RULE 1**

The general care of the cemetery is assumed by the commissioners and includes the cutting and sprinkling of the grass at reasonable intervals, the raking and cleaning of the grounds, and the pruning of shrubs and trees that may be placed by the management.

RULE 2

The general care assumed by the commissioners shall in no case mean the maintenance, repair or replacement of any memorial, tomb, or mausoleum placed or erected upon lots; nor the doing of any special or unusual work in the cemetery. Nor does it mean the reconstruction of any marble or granite work or any section or plot or any portion or portions thereof in the cemetery, caused by the elements, an act of God, common enemy, thieves, vandals, strikers, malicious mischief makers, explosions, unavoidable accidents, invasions, insurrections, riots, or by the order of any military or civil authority, whether the damage be direct or collateral, other than as herein provided.

RULE 3

Perpetual care endowment funds shall be established whereby the cemetery will hold and invest the principal sum deposited and use the annual income therefrom to defray the cost of the general operation of the cemetery.

RULE 4

Arrangements may be made for special care on only those lots specifically designated by the cemetery commissioners. Funds may be provided by the establishment of an endowment under a special care agreement whereby the cemetery will hold and invest the principal sum deposited by the lot owner and use the annual income therefrom to defray the cost of such special care.

RULE 5

Special care provided by the establishment of an endowment, as above mentioned, shall be limited to the income received from the investment of the endowment fund, with no part of the principal being expended, anything herein stated to the contrary notwithstanding.

RULE 6

Investment of endowment funds. The money received for perpetual care shall be held in trust and invested as provided by law. The cemetery commissioners reserve the right, however, either to handle all investments itself, or to deposit said funds with any person, company, or corporation qualified to act as trustees for such funds.

SECTION V. CORRECTION OF ERRORS

The cemetery reserves, and shall have, the right to correct any errors that may be made by it either in making interments, disinterments or removals, or the description, transfer or conveyance and substituting any conveying in lieu thereof other interment property of equal value and similar location as far as possible, or the commissioners, by refunding the amount of money paid on account of said purchase. In the event such error shall involve the interment of the remains of any person in such property, the commissioners reserve, and shall have the right to remove or transfer such remains so interred to such other property of equal value and similar location as may be substituted and conveyed in lieu thereof.

SECTION VI. DESCENT OF TITLES

The laws of the state of Vermont govern the descent of title to cemetery lots as well as other matters pertaining to assignments, conveyances, devises, trust deeds and inalienability. The commissioners will assist any lot owner who desires information or advice on questions pertaining to his lot.

SECTION VII. INTERMENTS

RULE 1

All funerals on entering the cemetery shall be under the charge of the cemetery commissioners.

RULE 2

Once a casket containing a body is within the confines of the cemetery, no funeral director nor his embalmer, assistant, employee, or agent, shall be permitted to open the casket or to touch the body without the consent of the legal representative of the deceased or an order signed by a court of competent jurisdiction.

RULE 3

Funeral directors, upon arrival at the cemetery, must present the necessary burial permit from the local health office.

RULE 4

Lot owners shall not allow interments in their lots in return for remuneration of any kind.

RULE 5

No interment of two or more bodies shall be made in one grave except in the case of mother and child or two infants buried in one casket.

RULE 6

When an interment is to be made in a lot, the location of such interment shall be designated by the lot owners. Should the lot owner fail or neglect to make such designation, the commissioners reserve the right to make the interment in a location designated by the cemetery commissioners.

RULE 7

The cemetery commissioners and the employees of the commissioners are the only persons who will be permitted to open graves with the following exceptions.

- a. When the cemetery is directed to make a disinterment by order of a court of competent jurisdiction and a certified copy of such order has been filed with the commissioners.
- b. When the coroner directs the disinterment for the purpose of holding an inquest and has filed with the commissioners his signed authorization to release the body to himself and his lawful agents. In such case, the disinterment must be made by the coroner or his lawful agents. Cemetery employees will not be permitted to assist the coroner or his agents.

RULE 8

In order to maintain a high standard of care and to eliminate sunken graves caused by the collapse of wood boxes, it is required that all burials must be made in outside containers made of natural stone or of metal, or of reinforced concrete. All such containers must be so made and installed as to meet specifications established by the commissioners. Outside containers may be procured from any source provided they meet the established specifications. When cemetery employees handle or install such containers a reasonable charge will be made for such service.

RULE 9

All charges for interment or services in connection therewith, shall be paid to the cemetery commissioners who will issue a receipt therefore, upon request.

RULE 10

Arrangements for the payment of any and all indebtedness due to the cemetery must be made before interment will be made.

RULE 11

The right is reserved by the commissioners to insist upon at least 24 hours notice prior to any interment and at least one week's notice prior to any disinterment or removal.

RULE 12

All interments, disinterments, and removals must be made at the time, and in the manner, and upon the charges fixed by the commissioners.

RULE 13

Besides being subject to these rules and regulations, all interments, disinterments, and removals are made subject to the orders and laws of the properly constituted public authorities.

RULE 14

The commissioners will not be responsible for any order given by telephone or for any mistake occurring from the want of precise and proper instructions as to the particular space, size of grave, and location in a lot, where interment is desired.

RULE 15

The commissioners will not be liable for the interment permit nor for the identity of the person sought to be interred.

SECTION VIII. PLANTS AND SHRUBS**RULE 1**

The commission will undertake to maintain, as may be practicable, the planting of trees and shrubs, to preserve and maintain landscape features, but does not undertake to maintain individual planting or urns or plants.

RULE 2

The commissioners shall not be responsible for any kinds of plantings damaged by the elements, vandals, thieves, or by other causes beyond its control. The commissioners shall have the further authority to remove all floral designs, flowers, weeds, trees, shrubs, plants, or herbage of any kind from the cemetery as soon as, in the judgment of the commissioners, they become unsightly, dangerous, detrimental, or diseased, or when they do not conform to the standards maintained.

RULE 3

The commissioners shall not be liable for floral pieces, baskets, or frames in which, or to which, such floral pieces are attached beyond the acceptance of such floral pieces for cemetery services held in the cemetery.

RULE 4

The commissioners reserve the right to prevent the removal of any flowers, floral designs, trees, shrubs, plants, or herbage of any kind unless the commissioners give consent.

RULE 5

All plastic, silk, or any other such flowers or pieces of this nature shall be removed November 1st of each year.

SECTION IX. ENFORCEMENT OF RULES

The cemetery commission is hereby empowered to enforce all rules and regulations and to exclude from the cemetery any person violating the same. The commission shall have charge of the grounds and buildings including the conduct of funerals, traffic, employees, lot owners and visitors and at all times shall have supervision and control of all persons in the cemetery.

Adopted this 9th day of July, 1985.

Eugene Bagley

John Furman

Gerald Sherman

GRANVILLE CEMETERY COMMISSION

PO BOX 66
GRANVILLE, VERMONT 05747

CEMETERY PLOT PURCHASE AGREEMENT

Name _____ Date _____

St. Address/PO Box _____

Diagram of plot

Town / State / Zip Code _____

Phone Number(s) _____

Cemetery _____

Plot Size _____

Location _____

Price \$ _____

People approved to be buried in this lot

Burials Date

Buyer _____ Date _____

Granville Cemetery Commissioner _____ Date _____

Granville Town Clerk _____ Date _____