

City of Grants

Municipal Cemetery

Rules & Regulations

Updated May 3, 2023

The Grants Memorial Park is cared for and maintained by the City of Grants.

Revenue collected from the sale of plots helps to fund the maintenance and improvements of the grounds. A Memorial Fund was created for those who wish to make a special donation to assist with the maintenance, donate in memory of a loved one or for special beautification projects.

The City Council appoints citizens to a Cemetery Advisory Board and the Board helps to oversee matters of the Cemetery and make recommendations to the Governing Body. Meetings of the Cemetery Advisory Board are open to the public.

The goal of the Cemetery Advisory Board and these Rules & Regulations is to maintain a neat and orderly appearance and to facilitate a place for family and friends to visit the resting place of their deceased loved ones. These regulations were formulated for the good of all and we respectfully request your cooperation.

For additional information, contact the City Clerk at 287-7927.

Hours of Operations

- 7:00 am to Dusk, Daily.
- Gates will be closed as deemed necessary in order to provide protection to the grounds.

Burials

- Interments are allowed Monday - Saturday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.
- No Interments on holidays.
- Only the City of Grants' employees, or designee, will open and close graves.
- One casket per grave allowed, unless it is a double depth grave that will allow two caskets.
- Double depth graves may also have one casket and four urns, with prior approval from the City of Grants.
- Opening and Closing Fees will be charged for each burial.
 - Opening and Closing Fees are payable only at time of Interment/Service Arrangement, and are not payable in advance of scheduling. Payments can only be accepted upon approval of a scheduled interment date.
- A casket with a vault will be required for every interment, except for urn burials.
- Minimum requirements for outer containers are: ridged polypropylene, fiber glass, steel or other approved vault. (This rule does not apply to the infant burial area.)

Grave Sites & Headstones

- Only the City of Grants' employees, or designee, will place or remove headstones.
- Headstones and grave markers will not have offensive or profane content.
- Headstones will contain the full name along with date of birth and date of death.
- Maximum size of headstone is 28" X 16" X 3" (Exception American Service Veterans).
- Section G (Urns and infants) maximum size of headstone is 24"x 16"x 3".
- Double graves may have
- Double graves may have a double headstone on the same plot, not to exceed 48" x 16" x 4" or two single headstones on the same plot with the stones being the exact same size and adhering to the dimensions above.

- Graves with a casket and four urns may have a headstone at the head of the plot (maximum size 28" X 16" X 3' and 4 additional headstones (maximum size 24" x 16" x 3") down the length of the plot.
- Headstones and grave markers must be granite, marble, or bronze.
- All headstones and grave markers must lie flat. Upright headstones are not allowed, nor are permanent raised objects on the headstone.
- No enclosures of any kind are allowed around a grave. This includes fences, curbing, cement slabs, etc.
- Objects made from iron, cement, wood, trees, shrubs, tributes, or any other material that stands above ground level will not be permitted. The exception is flower containers that can be removed prior to ground maintenance. Brass or other costly vases that cannot be retracted or are flush with the ground are discouraged.
- No dogs except service dogs are allowed on the grounds.
- Benches will not be placed in locations that can be used for plots and must be approved by the Cemetery Advisory Board in advance.
- Any burial of a decedent in an occupied plot must be approved by the City Clerk.

General Rules

- The City of Grants promises to use all due caution and care when maintaining the Cemetery.
- Neither the Cemetery Advisory Board nor the City of Grants will be liable for any act of plot owners, visitors, or trespassers in the Cemetery. We will not be liable for damages caused by vandalism or theft of personal items placed on graves.
- Any person(s) caught in the act of mischief, theft, or damage to graves or grounds are in violation of the law and will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.
- The City of Grants reserves the right to alter or change the rules from time to time for the betterment of the Cemetery.
- The City of Grants will not offer refunds for cemetery plots purchased, both used and/or unused.

Grounds Maintenance

- All dead flowers or other rubbish will be removed as soon as they become unsightly and prior to mowing. It is preferred that family member remove items prior to mowing.
- Summer Maintenance (May-September) and mowing takes place weekly on Wednesdays, and on other special days when advertised. Items you wish to keep should be removed each Tuesday. Items left will be disposed of by the City.
- Winter Maintenance (October-April) and mowing takes place on the FIRST Wednesday of the month. Items you wish to keep should be removed the first Tuesday of the month. Items left will be disposed of by the City.
- Decorations for graves are restricted to: cut flowers, potted plants, wreaths, silk flowers, and other small items. Crosses, pictures, and other memorials are discouraged. Any standing memorial items must be removed prior to ground maintenance; which is weekly during May - September and monthly during October - April.

Sections

- Section F shall be open for interments and reservations.
- Section H will be open when Section F is filled, or it reaches 80% capacity.
- Reservation of grave plots next to loved ones must be done at the time of Service/Internment Arrangements and paid in full (except Open/Close Fees).
- No plot will be held without full payment.
- Section G shall be open for urn and infant burials (Caskets less than 24" x 24").

Disinterment

- Any casketed disinterment must comply with the sections 24-14-23 and 30-12-12 NMSA 1978, as well as 7 NMA 2.2.16.3 and all amendments thereto.
- Disinterment will be allowed only pursuant to; a) a district court order, or b) a properly issued disinterment permit from the NM State Register or the NM State Medical Examiner.
- A copy of the disinterment permit and written consent of the personal representative of the deceased must be presented to the City of Grants prior to service.
- The City of Grants reserves the right to investigate the authenticity and accuracy of any document or information submitted. A disinterment that does not conform to state law is a fourth-degree felony under section 30-12-12 NMSA 1978.

Benches

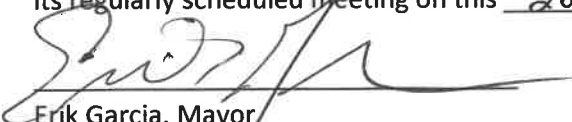
- Any bench wishing to be placed in Grants Memorial Park cemetery must get the Cemetery Advisory Board's approval prior to installation or purchasing of materials/bench.
- All bench locations must be pre-approved by Cemetery personnel employee and City Clerk, with the final placement and approval by the Cemetery Advisory Board.
- All Benches must have a stone foundation of 36"X 14"x4."
- The maximum size for a bench is 48"x16"X 4"
- If the memorial becomes a hazard/liability, or if the approved terms of acceptance are not fulfilled by the donor, the memorial may be removed and/or relocated.
- Every bench must be placed at minimum twelve feet apart.
- The City of Grants will in no way assume liability for damage or vandalism done prior, during, or after the setting and placement of the bench has been made.
- The City and cemetery staff have the right to relocate or remove the bench, as necessary.
- A grave plot CANNOT be purchased to place a bench or any other memorial items.
- The Cemetery Advisory Board's approval for a bench does not include any other memorial items.

These rules shall be in effect 5 days after being passed, adopted and approved.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED BY THE Cemetery Board at its regularly scheduled meeting on This _____ day of _____, 2023.

Gloria Chavez, President

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED BY THE Governing Body of the City of Grants at its regularly scheduled meeting on this 28th day of June, 2023.



Erik Garcia, Mayor

ATTEST 

Frances Salas, City Clerk

