

# **OSCEOLA CEMETERY BOARD RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**MISSION STATEMENT:** *It is the goal of the Osceola Cemetery Board to provide a fitting final resting place for those who choose to be buried here by maintaining, preserving, and enhancing the land known as the Osceola Cemetery.*

The Osceola Cemetery is owned and operated by the City of Osceola, Nebraska and is governed by the Osceola Cemetery Board. The Osceola Cemetery Board is composed of 6 members and meets twice a year or as needed.

## **PURCHASE OF CEMETERY LOTS**

Cemetery lots may be purchased at the Osceola City Office. Upon full payment of the purchase price of a lot, the City will issue a Cemetery Deed under its seal. The deed will be given to the owner, and a copy of the deed will be kept at the City Office. The cost of each space is \$200.00, and a minimum of 2 or 3 spaces must be purchased depending on the number of spaces assigned to a half block of cemetery ground.

A maximum of six spaces is allowed to be purchased per individual or family without designation of each space.

## **BURIAL REQUIREMENTS/MEMORIALS**

Only the City's contracted grave digger may open and close graves in the Osceola Cemetery. The Osceola City Office must be notified before both burials and stone placements to ensure accurate location. There is no marking fee.

All traditional burials will require a vault made of cement or metal. All cremations must be fully enclosed in a container. Scattering ashes on the ground is not permitted.

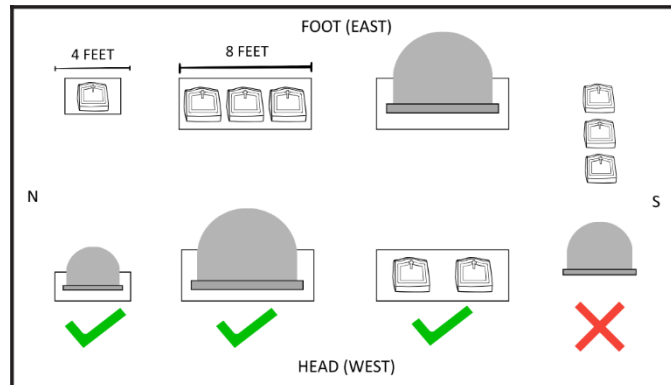
Curbing, surface burial vaults, grave slabs, monoliths, above ground crypts, mausoleums, grave enclosures, above ground vaults or any type of vase or statue that is not a standard conformation of a maker in that cemetery Block are not permitted. Fences, copings, hedges, or other enclosures around or within lots are not permitted.

One (1) traditional and two cremation burials are allowed in one space. Or up to three (3) cremation burials may be placed on one (1) traditional space.

No pet burials allowed.

All monuments and markers, including benches, shall be set on the head (west end of the space) or foot (east end of the space). Monuments and markers shall face east or west. All monuments and markers will be set on a foundation of granite, marble or concrete. The foundation will be of the appropriate size for the monument or marker and will have 4" minimum margin. The foundation is NOT to exceed the size of the grave space OR the size of a half (½) lot. Please see the following diagram.

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## **DECORATION OF GRAVES**

Flowers and floral decorations are encouraged to be used in permanent vases only. No glass containers are allowed.

With the exception of Memorial Day decorations, and the months of November through March, no decorations may be placed on the ground surrounding the gravestone. April 1<sup>st</sup> through October 31<sup>st</sup>, ornamental tributes to your loved one need to be placed on the headstone or cement apron surrounding the gravestone so the care and mowing of the cemetery can continue on a regular basis. Shepherd hooks and solar lights must be placed directly next to the cement apron or be permanently secured to the cement. Memorial Day decorations must be removed by June 15<sup>th</sup>. Winter decorations may be left from December 1 to March 1. Any decorations left after these dates may be removed and discarded by cemetery staff.

The Osceola Cemetery shall not be liable for any lost, misplaced, or broken tributes or for any damage caused by the elements, thieves, or vandals.

No planting of shade or ornamental trees, shrubs, or flowers is allowed on individual grave sites. Please contact the Osceola City Office for more information about the Osceola Cemetery Memorial Tree Program.

## **PERPETUAL CARE AND CEMETERY MAINTENANCE**

Perpetual Care involves mowing, cleaning up any debris, removing faded flowers and decorations, and trimming or removing unsightly shrubs and trees as directed by the Cemetery Board.

## **AMENDMENTS**

These rules and regulations may be enlarged, altered, or amended by action of the Cemetery Board as specific needs arise.

Approved by the Osceola Cemetery Board on August 3, 2016 and by Osceola City Council on August 10, 2016  
Update approved by the Osceola Cemetery Board on August 23, 2017, and approved by Osceola City Council on September 13, 2017. Update approved by the Osceola Cemetery Board on April 24, 2019, and approved by Osceola City Council on May 8, 2019. Update approved by the Osceola Cemetery Board on August 20, 2025, and approved by the Osceola City Council on September 10, 2025.