



**ST. NICHOLAS CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
W2037 COUNTY ROAD S FREEDOM, WI 54130**

RULES AND REGULATIONS EFFECTIVE 7/23/2024

A. Graves and Burials

1. No above ground burials allowed, this includes full burials and cremations.
2. Graves are to be purchased only through the Cemetery Sexton and may only be reserved for 14 days after which the time ceases.
3. No charging of graves. Payments must be received by check or cash.
4. No burial will occur until the grave is paid in full.
5. All graves are to be sold in a certain section until that section is full; then another section will be opened.
6. All labor done in the cemetery **MUST** be done only through the sexton.
7. A single lot may contain 1 casket and 1 single urn **OR** up to 3 single urns.
8. Burial vaults are a requirement for full casket ground interments.
9. Cremation burials require a grave or burial site. Cremations must be buried in an urn vault. One single urn may be buried above a casket on a traditional site.
10. Infant burials require a grave or burial site. Infants may also be buried in the infant section of the cemetery.
11. Any burials in the cemetery must have the approval of the sexton. Grave digging will be done only by the sexton or appointed digger.
12. Winter burials will not be grass seeded as early as Spring burials as it takes more time for frozen ground to thaw out and settle down. Winter burials are more dangerous because of extreme cold and the distance to the back of the cemetery. Also, at times the cemetery driveway can become very icy to walk back to the gravesite. We can have trouble marking the gravesites because of deep snow and the grave digger can also damage other gravestones in extreme cold conditions.
13. No person shall have burial rights in any space or lot unless his/her name appears on the cemetery records for that space. A burial right owner may designate a lot to another party (family or otherwise), but this is not a transfer of burial right ownership, rather a designation allowing that person to be interred in that gravesite.
14. Upon the death of the holder of rights on any given space or lot, direct legal heirs or Devisee should record in the Cemetery records Proof of Death and transfer of burial rights. According to Wisconsin State Statutes 157.10, when the original owner(s) of a burial space(s) or lot die and is/are buried there, any remaining burial spaces (burial rights) pass equally to all direct heirs. No burials or designations/assignments for future use of the remaining burial rights may be made without the written permission of all heirs; or if all heirs have agreed to transfer ownership to a single heir.
15. Any grave or burial site not used by family, or their heirs, must come back to the Cemetery Association. A refund of the original purchase price will be made, and a release form signed by all family members is required. Any exceptions will be handled on a case-by-case basis by the Cemetery Association.

B. Decorations/Enforcement of Rules - Effective January 1, 2007

1. No planting or laying flowers on the ground except for the first thirty (30) days after new burial.
2. Flowers must be in containers as a part of or attached to a monument in such a manner so as to not interfere with the grass cutting. Decorations and flowers may be placed on the marker or monument at any time of the year.
3. **No shrubs or trees are to be planted on cemetery lots. Such planting will be removed without notice.**
4. No decorative stone, gravestone border or bark will be allowed after July 1, 2006.

5. Solar lights and wind charms are allowed but must be placed in a drilled hole at least 2 inches from the edge of the base stone.
6. No loose objects of any kind allowed on base stone.
7. The Cemetery Board reserves the right to remove any and all objects on grave lots that do not comply with the rules.
8. Flowers may only be brought into the cemetery for decoration on graves. Unsightly containers of loose arrangements, such as sprays or wreaths will be removed at the sexton's discretion.
9. Christmas decorations may be placed by monuments from Thanksgiving until Easter.
10. No corner markers, curbing, platforms, steps, benches, fences, or hedges will be allowed on the gravesite itself. Any other items to be placed in the cemetery property must be approved by the Cemetery Committee.
11. No motor vehicle traffic is allowed through the cemetery when "cemetery closed signs" are posted at the entrance of the cemetery.
12. From November 1st through April 1st of each year, prayers will be said at the entrance of the cemetery (or in church) if weather conditions are NOT favorable at the gravesite.
13. St. Nicholas Parish and Cemetery Association are not responsible for items placed on gravesites that may be found to be missing.

C. Monuments

1. All graves must be paid in full before any monument may be placed.
2. A permit to erect a monument must first be approved by the Cemetery Sexton who will verify the correct location before a monument is set. All monuments must bear the first and last name(s) of plot owners. Approval will then be issued to the respective memorial dealer.
3. Monuments belong to gravesite owners. Damage which occurs due to vandalism or acts of God is the responsibility of the owner. It is recommended monuments are added to homeowner insurance policies of the gravesite owner to cover repair or replacement costs, subject to the policy deductible.
4. For a complete list of monument rules, please go to the cemetery page of the St. Nicholas website: www.stnicholasfreedom.org You may also contact the parish office at 920-788-1492 and arrange to pick up a copy or pick up a copy from the mailbox in the cemetery.

ST. NICHOLAS CEMETERY COLUMBARIUM - Established September, 2023

The Saint Nicholas Cemetery columbarium is located in the southern part of the St. Nicholas Cemetery. It consists of 48 niches, 24 niches on each side (3 rows of 8). Each niche is 23" long and can hold 1 or 2 standard size urns. Each urn should not exceed 11" high or 11" wide and must be a purchased, quality urn. Niches will be sold top to bottom and in sequential order per the cemetery sexton.

All inscriptions will follow a common template. Completed inscription form and payment must be made at time of columbarium niche purchase.

No individual flowers and other memorials placed on or by the unit.



Cemetery Sexton: Terry VanHoof
 Cemetery Board President: Brian Higgins
 Cemetery Board Secretary: Lynn Ihde
 Administrator: Fr. Robert Chinnapan

Cemetery Board Members:
 Dave Bowers, Vicky Randerson,
 Laurie Thompson, Tom Wisneski

Rules and Regulations are subject to change without notice.