

Adopted by the Board of Trustees – August 5, 2024

Liberty Township cemeteries are tax-supported and owned by Liberty Township.

The rules and regulations of the Liberty Township cemeteries have been formulated after due consideration. The Ohio Revised Code has been followed as a guide. While some rules may appear arbitrary, each has been adopted for the specific purpose of protecting the lot owner and ensuring the beauty, character, and distinction of Liberty Township cemeteries. It is expected that they will be appreciated and properly respected. (ORC 517.08)

The following rules may be changed at any time by the Liberty Township Trustees.

1. The Liberty Township Trustees shall employ a township maintenance person. One of the responsibilities shall be to act as the Cemetery Sexton who shall have charge and control of the cemeteries under the direction of the Liberty Township Trustees.
2. Persons desiring to purchase cemetery lots shall call the Cemetery Sexton who will furnish the necessary information. Deeds are issued by the Liberty Township Fiscal Officer.
3. Past residents of Liberty Township will be entitled to purchase cemetery lots at the price in effect for current residents at the time of purchase. Proof of residency will be required.
4. All the land is property of Liberty Township, in fee simple. Cemetery deeds convey the right to use portions of that land for cemetery lots. A separate deed shall be prepared for each cemetery lot purchased. The joint purchase of cemetery lots, except by husband and wife, is not recommended. Each owner is vested with the title to his or her cemetery lots for the sole purpose of interment. The cemetery lots may be transferred with the permission of the Liberty Township Trustees.
5. The Board of Trustees may repurchase any cemetery lots from its owner at any time, at the original purchase price.
6. The owners of cemetery lots may dispose of them by will, subject to the previous conditions. If the owner dies intestate, the cemetery lots will descend to his or her heirs, as determined by the statutes of the State of Ohio in effect at the time of death. Consent to these transfers will not be unreasonably withheld.
7. Cemetery lot owners shall provide the Liberty Township Trustees and the Cemetery Sexton with the name, address, and telephone numbers of the persons to whom the grantee's property would pass by intestate succession. (ORC 517-07-A)
8. Any person who receives a cemetery lot by gift or inheritance must, within one year of receiving such interest, give written notice of his/her name and address to the Board of Trustees. In addition, he/she must notify the Board of Trustees of any subsequent changes in name or address. (ORC 517-07-B)
9. The Liberty Township Trustees encourage the heirs to submit proof of inheritance and return the old deed to the Liberty Township Fiscal Officer for a name transfer. (ORC 517-07-C)

10. The owners of cemetery lots may dispose of them, by selling them back to the Liberty Township Trustees at the original purchase price, relinquishing all rights to them.
11. Inherited or previously purchased cemetery lots cannot be exchanged for other cemetery lots located in a more desirable location in any of the Liberty Township Cemeteries.
12. Cemetery lots may not be purchased by a resident intending to inter non-residents at the resident fee.
13. When a non-resident purchases a grave, or receives a grave as a gift, from the deed owner(s), whether the deed owner is a resident or non-resident, a fee shall be charged. Said fee shall be equal to the difference between the resident and non-resident prices which are in effect at the time of the transfer to the non-resident.
14. No mausoleum or structure of any type may be constructed on grave sites.
15. When a burial is to take place, the Cemetery Sexton should be notified not less than 48 hours before the interment.
16. The Cemetery Sexton shall supervise the digging of all graves. No interments may be made on federal holidays except in cases where interment is ordered by the Board of Trustees.
17. During severe weather conditions, the Cemetery Sexton may contact the funeral Director to postpone the funeral until the grave can be opened.
18. Graveside services may be held Monday through Friday, from 8:00 AM to 2:30 PM, and Saturday, from 8:00 AM to 12 noon. An additional charge will be made for funerals approved by the Liberty Township Trustees to be held on Saturdays and federal holidays.
19. A maximum of two cremains will be permitted in a grave that already contains a burial casket. A casket shall not be interred in a grave which already contains burial cremains.
20. Marker foundations must be installed by the Cemetery Sexton.
21. The location of all monuments and markers foundations shall be marked by the Cemetery Sexton before installation.
22. Monuments and markers are to be placed in the center of single graves and the centerline of double graves on the west end or head end of graves, except government-furnished markers may be placed at the east end or foot of the grave, flush with the ground, and at a reasonable distance away from adjacent monuments and flowers, as to allow for future placement of adjacent monuments and flowers.
23. A government-furnished marker can be installed with another monument and may be mounted vertically on said monument.
24. Granite and bronze are recommended as the best and most durable for headstones and memorials.
25. Two or more names on a monument qualify it to be classified as a family monument. Where a family monument is centered on an entire lot, then a flush-type government-furnished marker can be installed.
26. All flush markers will be set level to the ground.

27. Monuments may be moved temporarily to allow for the opening and closing of a grave in that area.
28. Settled, tipped, or crooked monuments are not the responsibility of Liberty Township, however, Liberty Township shall have the right to repair or straighten monuments.
29. Maintenance of all live plantings and cut flowers is the complete responsibility of the person who planted and/or placed them. Any plantings that do not have the approval of the Cemetery Sexton may, with the authorization of the Liberty Township Trustees, be removed by the Cemetery Sexton. All graves will be seeded by the Cemetery Sexton.
30. No trees or shrubs shall be allowed to be planted on any graves. Miniature shrubs may be planted, but maintenance/trimming is the responsibility of the person who placed them. The Cemetery Sexton maintains the right to trim all existing trees, shrubs, and bushes, and to remove those which pose a problem or a liability.
31. No spreading plants or running vines will be permitted on any graves. No roses will be permitted.
32. No walls, borders, or enclosures of any kind will be permitted around any grave.
33. No plantings or placement of plantings may extend more than 16 inches past the grave marker footing.
34. Potted plants are allowed. The maximum diameter of the pot shall not exceed 16 inches.
35. All cut or artificial flowers, wreaths, and other adornments will be removed from all graves on April 1 and November 1. Artificial flowers will be removed at the discretion of the Cemetery Sexton. On April 1 all Christmas decorations will be removed to make room for Easter, Memorial Day, and summer decorations. And on November 1, all summer decorations will be removed to make way for Christmas wreaths.
36. For safety reasons, plant hangers of any kind, glass containers, vases, adornments, etc. are not permitted in the cemeteries at any time. Any of these items found in the cemeteries on grave sites will be removed by the Cemetery Sexton.
37. Cemetery hours: The cemeteries will be open for visitation from sunrise to sunset each day. Any person found on Cemetery property during times other than stated above will be considered trespassing and will be prosecuted according to law. Any person who trespasses on graves or injures or damages trees, shrubs, plants, or defaces monuments, buildings, or enclosures will be prosecuted according to law.