

**VACAVILLE-ELMIRA CEMETERY DISTRICT**  
**RULES AND REGULATIONS**  
Adopted March 11, 1993  
Amended December 11, 2007  
Amended June 11, 2013  
Amended January 14, 2015  
Amended September 8, 2015  
Amended February 6, 2024

**A. STATE OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE**

California laws govern cemeteries. The bulk of regulations is contained in the Business and Professional Codes and the Health and Safety Codes as detailed in the Cemetery Act.

**PURPOSE**

1. These Rules and Regulations are designed for the mutual protection of the owners of interment rights within the Cemetery.
2. All burial rights purchased shall be subject to these Rules and Regulations.
3. Owners of interment rights, visitors and persons performing work within the Cemetery, shall be subject to these Rules and Regulations, and to all amendments or modifications as shall be adopted by the Cemetery from time to time.
4. Their enforcement will help protect the Cemetery and create and preserve its beauty.
5. The Cemetery grounds are sacredly devoted to the interment of human remains, and the provisions and penalties of the law as provided by statute will be enforced in all cases of wanton injury, disturbance, and disregard of the Rules and Regulations.
6. Special cases may arise in which the literal enforcement of these Rules and Regulations and any amendments thereto may impose unnecessary hardship. The Cemetery therefore, reserves the right, without notice, to make exceptions, suspensions, or modifications in any of the Rules and Regulations, when, in its judgement, the same appears advisable; and such temporary exceptions, suspensions, or modifications shall in no way be construed as affecting the general application of these Rules and Regulations.

**B. CHAPTER 4 - POWERS**

1. State of California Health and Safety Code

Sec. 9040: RIGHT OF CEMETERY TO MAKE RULES AND REGULATIONS:

(c)The District that owns a cemetery shall have exclusive jurisdiction and control over its maintenance and management.

9041: A District shall have and may exercise all rights and powers, expressed or implied, necessary to carry out the purposes and intent of this part, including, but not limited to, all the following powers as set forth in subsections (A) through (P).

### **C. RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR OTHER PURPOSES:**

1. A cemetery may make and enforce rules and regulations for all other purposes deemed necessary by the cemetery authority for the proper conduct of the business of the cemetery, for the transfer of any plot or the right of interment, and the protection and safeguarding of the premises, and the principles, plans, and ideals on which the cemetery is conducted.
2. Interment right lots may be purchased from an authorized representative of the Board of Trustees, at the business office located on the Cemetery grounds. The terms of sale are cash. Upon payment in full, and payment of the non-refundable endowment care deposit, a certificate of ownership of the interment rights shall be issued to the purchaser.
3. No interment may be made, or other services rendered, until all charges for lots, services and endowment care deposit have been made.
4. A maximum of TWO (2) burials are allowed in a single, full size plot: One (1) full size single burial, One (1) full size single burial and One (1) cremains, (provided the crypt is placed as the first burial, or a disinterment fee will apply for the cremains), Two (2) cremains, or Two (2) full size burials in one double crypt. An approved crypt, vault, concrete box or metal receptacle shall be used in EVERY interment.
5. Final committal services shall not begin before 9:00 AM or later than 3:00 PM. There are no burials on Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays.
6. Interment right lots and cremation receptacles are limited to six (6) per family. All sales or transfers by owners by gift, inheritance, or otherwise must be accomplished through the district office, and a transfer fee will be charged.
7. Markers are available through private vendors only. Upright and pillow monuments may be placed in an approved upright section only. All others must be flat markers set at ground level. All memorial markers must state "in spirit only" and conform to marker rules as to size and type. These rules are on file and available for inspection at the Cemetery office.
8. The Cemetery District reserves the right, when necessary, or in the best interests of the District demand, in the judgement of the Board of Trustees, to remove or re-inter remains that have been interred, keeping accurate records of such relocation, and whenever possible, notifying the purchaser or next of kin before the relocation is made.

9. Every reasonable effort will be made to care for flowers, vases and markers. However, neither the Cemetery District or its employees shall be responsible for any theft, loss nor damage incurred to anything of movable character placed at the burial site, or for monuments and markers.

10. The placement of any memorial bench in the Vacaville-Elmira Cemetery District will continue to be subject to current rules and regulations of the District and shall require the pre-approval of the Cemetery management. Signed acknowledgment by the family or their appointed agent regarding the exact approved location of said bench will be mandatory prior to any installation. Effective November 13, 2007.

## **D. RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING DECORATION OF GRAVES**

### **1. AUTHORIZED DECORATIONS**

Only real and artificial flowers will be accepted and shall be placed ONLY in the vases provided in traditional markers, not to exceed two (2) vases per plot. NO glass or ceramic vases.

NO paraphernalia, such as flowers, pictures, flags, stickers, knick-knacks etc. are to be placed in the niche areas that *do not* have vases provided. Only flowers are allowed in niche areas that do provide vases. This rule applies to any full grave plot areas as well.

Wreaths, sprays, flowered crosses, and other shaped or framed floral designs are allowed on the gravesite only for the original burial services. Thereafter, all flowers must be placed in marker vases.

NO pinwheels, whirly-gigs, balloons, statues, bric-a-brac, stuffed animals, wooden or metal stakes, wires, solar lights of any kind, or like devices are allowed on any gravesite.

All holiday flowers, scarecrows, wreaths, easter lilies, etc will be removed starting the second week after the holiday.

A clean sweep of the cemetery grounds to remove and dispose of all old flowers, any unauthorized decorations and any remaining holiday decorations including all Christmas decorations will be done starting the third week of January.

All ornamentation deemed inappropriate by the Board of Trustees shall be removed by Cemetery management without notice, dependent upon operational considerations, safety and appearance.

Fresh and artificial, flowers that are wilted, faded or present an unsightly appearance will be disposed of.

An American flag, 11 ½" X 16 ½" maximum size, may be placed in existing vases for Memorial Day, Veteran's Day, Fourth of July and Flag Day ONLY. Flags may be placed two (2) days prior until two (2) days after holiday. Flags flown on plots at any other time of year other than these special holidays will be picked up by Cemetery personnel. *Please note that the flags for Memorial Day and Veteran's Day are placed and removed by volunteer groups.*

NO bicycles, scooters, roller skates, roller blades, or skateboards may be ridden on Cemetery grounds.

The use of a canopy, EZ-up or other shade structure is strictly prohibited. Personal umbrellas for shade are welcome.

Live music, bands, mariachi etc., are only permitted on the day of the burial.

NO Barbecuing is permitted on the cemetery grounds.

NO open flames such as candles or cooking tools.

Consuming alcoholic beverages and smoking marijuana or possession of illegal substances is not permitted on the cemetery grounds.

The posted speed limit is 10 MPH. Please watch for pedestrians and wildlife.

Check with the Cemetery office first if you are in question of any of the above rules.

**THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES THANKS YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION IN HELPING TO KEEP THE CEMETERY SAFE AND PRESERVE ITS BEAUTY.**

4.  
**VACAVILLE-ELMIRA CEMETERY DISTRICT**  
**MARKER RULES**  
**Effective May 9, 1995**  
**Amended June 11, 2013**  
**Amended January 14, 2015**

1. Only ONE (1) marker allowed per Burial Plot. In a double depth burial plot, please plan your stone accordingly, with the first burial.
2. All markers and monuments must be of traditional material, i.e. granite, marble, bronze and concrete. All other materials require approval of the Cemetery management.
3. No plot is to exceed two (2) vases.
4. Markers in the FLAT areas must be set flush and level with the ground surface on the west end of the grave. Inscriptions or other raised areas and letters must not exceed 1/8" in height, and not to exceed the following sizes, INCLUDING any installed flower vases and/or borders.

**FLAT AREAS**

	<b>L X W</b>
Single Plot and Double-depth Markers	28 X 32
Double Plot Markers	28 X 48
*VA Companion Markers	36 X 30

In an approved UPRIGHT area of the Cemetery, the Maximum size limitation is:

**UPRIGHT AREAS**

Single Plot and double-depth Markers	28 X 32
Double Plot Markers	28 X 48

**L=Measurement from Head to Foot of Plot**  
**W=Measurement Side to Side of Plot**

The height is not to exceed 3 feet from ground level to the top of the marker. All UPRIGHTS must be pinned TWICE. Pins must be stainless steel, 6" in length x 1/2 "diameter minimum. Upright monuments set without a base must still be pinned.

Baby and Cremation Marker sizes 18 X 16  
 In the Baby Section, a vase is required, to be set at the HEAD of the plot.

**BLOCK 27C/31C ... Cremation Plots**

Single Marker...	10 X 16
Double Marker ...	10 X 32

5. Veteran's Markers placed on cremains plots must be the 8 1/2" X 5 1/2" Bronze niche size marker. Niche lettering is standard.
6. Foundations must be poured at ground level. ALL foundations, for FLAT AND UPRIGHT markers, must be poured 3 1/2" thick, and reinforced with wire mesh.
7. The borders, if any, must be smooth and finished in the manner of generally accepted standards of finished concrete.
8. All marker work must be done during the normal hours of the Cemetery. Sizes must be checked by office management before any marker is set.
9. Any marker or situation not covered by these rules and specifications MUST be approved prior to any action being taken.
10. All markers of grave sites whether upright, flat or niche plates shall conform to Cemetery guidelines as set forth in these rules & regulations.
  - A. No marker placed upon the Vacaville-Elmira Cemetery grounds shall have any profane, obscene, vulgar, immoral, crude, disrespectful of religion, filthy or indecent language of any common tongue, engraved on the marker.
  - B. No marker placed upon the Vacaville-Elmira Cemetery grounds shall have any known gang symbols, be they numbers, coded signs, images, pictures, graffiti, geographic zone codes or color-coded lettering. Any question as to what is appropriate, the Vacaville-Elmira Cemetery shall consult the appropriate authorities for final determination as to the engraving on the marker.
  - C. The Vacaville-Elmira Cemetery reserves the rights granted to us by the California Health and Safety Code, Section 9000, to be empowered to decide all matters in these issues should they arise.

CHECK WITH THE CEMETERY MANAGER

6.