

**FORT DODGE MEMORIAL PARK CEMETERY**  
CITY OF FORT DODGE, IOWA  
*Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department*  
(515) 576-7237 opt 3 / [cemeteries@fortdodgeiowa.org](mailto:cemeteries@fortdodgeiowa.org)

All rules of Memorial Park Cemetery enforced by the City shall be kept and observed effective May 2021. Adoptions of rules and regulations and the enforcement of same are in place to secure peace and order within the cemetery and to protect the dignity of those interred.

**VEHICLES**

- Drive on the roads only. Parking allowed on roads or along the edge of the roads.

**MARKERS and MEMORIALS**

- **All interments must have a marker placed. Marker must be a minimum of 12" in width with deceased name and year of birth and death.**
- **All markers are to be placed by a licensed contractor with location confirmed by department.**
- The owners and/or heirs of monuments or markers are responsible for maintenance and repair.
- The cemetery is not responsible for damage or vandalism to memorials, monuments and grounds.
- Field rocks or handmade memorials are not allowed as permanent grave markers.
- All memorial markers must be flush mount. No vertical monuments or headstones will be allowed, except in Everlasting Life Garden.
- Markers for single spaces are not to exceed 30" across. A flat concrete pad to hold flower vases can then extend up to the width of the lot. The depth of the memorial should be no than 12" to 14".
  - Two markers may be on one space if two cremations are interred following size requirements.
- Markers for double spaces are not to exceed 66" across. A flat concrete pad on each side to hold flower vases can then extend up to the width of the lot. The depth of the memorial should be no more than 12" to 14".

**PLOTS and INTERMENTS**

- All burials must provide proper documentation on ownership. If not available in city records, the City reserves the right to limit burial to immediate family ONLY to those already interred. This includes spouse, parent, child, sibling. The executor-of-estate or oldest, living next-of-kin may approve burials of "non-immediate" family members in writing. Immediate family members with designated space may relinquish their rights of interment to non-immediate family members with written documentation.
- Non-penetrable urns or vaults are required for all cremations.
- Occupied burial spaces may only have 1 cremation burial added to space.
  - These interments will be placed at the foot of the burial space.
  - If cremains are first in the space, there may not be any full vault burial for the second interred.
- No burials on Sundays or holidays.
- Funeral Home representative must be present for all interments.

**DECORATIONS**

- Any grave decorations must be placed in a permanent base and mounted on the marker.
  - Exception: Memorial Day Decorations - flags and flowers may be placed on the grave 3 days in advance and removed by the 7th day after Memorial Day.
- After Memorial Day through September 30th no temporary flowers or decorations allowed. Must be in permanent base.
- October 1st – April 1st winter decorations are permitted. If they remain after April 1st, they will be removed and discarded.
- All flags must be placed in permanent flag holders.
- **Rock, wood, plants, trees, shrubs, toys, golf balls, aluminum cans, or decorative objects are not permitted around the markers. This includes glass, solar lights, pinwheels, garden decorations or flags (other than the American flag).**
- The cemetery will remove and dispose all burial flowers and decorations when ground restoration occurs.
- **The Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department reserves the right to remove and dispose of any non-approved decorations if it violates the general rules.**