

Cemetery Rules and Regulations ~ Epworth United Methodist Church

1. **Price of Plots:** The price of burial plots shall be the going price which is in effect at the time of purchase as set by the Cemetery Committee and the Board of Trustees of the Epworth United Methodist Church. All persons owning plots who wish to resell must sell the plots back to Epworth United Methodist Church Cemetery at the original purchase price paid by the plot owner.

2. **Assessment for Perpetual Care:** The cost of perpetual care of the plot shall be included in the price charged for the burial plot. No plot will be sold without perpetual care.

3. **Opening of Graves:** In order to open a grave on any plot, the owner or funeral director must request and receive permission from the Cemetery Superintendent or person acting as the Cemetery Superintendent. In accordance with the authority invested in the Cemetery Committee, no grave will be permitted to be opened in any plot on which an account has not been paid in full. The same procedure and rule applies to monument companies for any setting of monuments and/or markers on any plot.

4. **Care of Property:** In order to insure the continuing beauty of the Cemetery grounds, visitor and worker safety, and to be fair and consistent to each plot owner, there shall be no grading, plantings either annual or perennial, landscape work or similar improvements of any kind on their plot. Floral arrangements whether artificial or live, may be placed on plots at any time, provided however, that the Cemetery caretakers shall have the right to remove those items when they die and/or become unattractive. Any items left at plots must be left on monument bases and not on the burial plot itself. Items such as solar/eternal lights, banners, wind chimes and similar items are not permitted. Plots that currently have plantings placed prior to these Rules and Regulations must be maintained by the owners in an acceptable fashion or the plantings will be removed by the Cemetery caretakers.

Upon the opening of a plot, the surplus dirt shall be removed from the Cemetery at the expense of the owner or owners of said plot. Any planting, maintenance of the plot or placing monuments contrary to the Cemetery Rules and Regulations will be corrected at the direction of the Cemetery Committee at the plot owner's expense. The Cemetery Committee and Epworth United Methodist Church are not responsible for property damage due to vandalism, weather or other occurrences.

5. **Coffins and Urns:** All coffins shall be buried in vaults or grave liners. Cremated remains shall be buried in impervious containers such as stone, metal or plastic. A single plot shall contain no more than one casket and one cremation container or four cremation containers per single plot.

6. **Monuments:** There shall be no satanic or cult symbols on headstones, footstones, tombstones or any other markers in the Cemetery deemed inappropriate by the Cemetery Committee and/or Board of Trustees of the Epworth United Methodist Church consistent with the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church.

7. Vehicles and Bicycles: Vehicle speed limit with in the cemetery is 10 – MPH. All bicyclists must use the roadways.

8. Animals: Companion animals such as dogs are not permitted in the Cemetery. Service animals are permitted for visitors and plot owners. Animal owners are responsible curbing the service dogs.

9. Special Cases/Exemptions: In certain instances, special cases and exemptions may be granted by the Cemetery Committee and Board of Trustees. They also reserve the right, without notice to make exceptions, suspensions or modifications to any of the Rules and Regulations when in their judgment the same appear advisable. Temporary exceptions, suspensions or modifications shall in no way be constructed as affecting the general application of the Rules and Regulations. These Rules and Regulations, which have been adopted in order to maintain and keep the trust that has been invested in the Cemetery Committee and Board of Trustees, are now in effect and will continue until modified by the Cemetery Committee and Board of Trustees.

10. Distribution: Copies of these Rules and Regulations shall be distributed to plot owners at the time of purchase, to persons making general inquiries or internment arrangements and to local funeral directors and monument companies.

These Rules and Regulations were updated and approved by the Cemetery Committee and Board of Trustees as of April 8, 2014.

Plot Owner

Date

Epworth Cemetery Representative

Date



EPWORTH
REHOBOTH BEACH
a United Methodist Church
Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

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