



POSTED ON THE KIOSK AT ENTRANCE OF THE TONRY CEMETERY

**RULES AND REGULATIONS
GOVERNING BRENTWOOD, NH, CEMETERIES**

[EXCERPTS]

Three Trustees of the Cemeteries have been elected to oversee and maintain the public cemeteries within the town of Brentwood. It is the desire of the Board of Trustees to provide the residents of Brentwood a well-groomed and peaceful country cemetery where those who visit will benefit from a calm and satisfying experience. Consequently, to this end we have devised the following rules and regulations.

Introduction

Although there are some twenty-five identified burying grounds within the town limits, the Tonry Cemetery - a gift deeded to the town in 1990 and located on the south side of Middle Road (Route 111A) - is presently the only *public* graveyard open for interments.

The Veazey Cemetery on the north side of Middle Road and opposite the Tonry was deeded to the town in 1764 but is not open for new burials. There are other cemeteries in which the Town of Brentwood has an interest by virtue of the Perpetual Care Trusts and Maintenance Care Trusts established for the care of burial sites therein. These small burying grounds have been known by various names through the years and include the following:

- Dudley Cemetery** (on east side of Pickpocket Road)
- Ladd / Fellows Cemetery** (on South Road in West Brentwood)
- Shepard Cemetery** (on Route 125 in the woods to the left behind No. 420)
- Thyng Cemetery** (on the north side of North Road)
- Tuck Cemetery** (on the west side of Rte. 125)
- Sanborn Cemetery** (on Middle Road next to Swasey Central School)
- Wight Cemetery** (on South Road behind the house at No. 11)

These Rule and Regulations apply to the Tonry Cemetery, but every burial in the Town of Brentwood - even those within private graveyards - must be registered at the Town Office and are subject to Town of Brentwood Zoning Ordinances. Also note that all burial grounds are controlled through the State of New Hampshire laws that regulate the burial of human remains: RSA 289.

Typically, the following steps are taken when a burial is accomplished in Brentwood:

- 1.) Undertaker notifies gravedigger of the cemetery where deceased is to be buried.
- 2.) Undertaker files **ORDER FOR INTERMENT** permit at the Town Office .
- 3.) Gravedigger contacts Superintendent of Cemeteries to arrange a meeting at the cemetery.
- 4.) Superintendent reviews the **RIGHT OF INTERMENT DEED** [and / or any signed document transferring ownership to a relative] and the **ORDER FOR INTERMENT** and the cemetery maps on file at the Town Office.
- 5.) Using documentation, the Gravedigger and Superintendent locate the site for the burial and, if appropriate, probe to ascertain that there is room for the remains.
- 6.) Grave is dug, body interred, and grave is closed

HOURS AND RESTRICTIONS

The cemetery will be open from **dawn till dusk** and the gates are open to motor vehicles and burials starting **April 1** - unless the Trustees determine excessive muddy conditions would do damage to the roadways or grounds. Likewise, unless an early snowfall warrants it, the gates will close for the winter on **January 1**. Upon request, exceptions to these restrictions may be made by the Trustees.

Because a cemetery is a place sacred to the memory of those interred and a place to seek comfort by those who visit, an atmosphere of serenity is to be maintained at all times. For these reasons and in order to minimize unnecessary noise and prevent litter and animal waste disposal problems, the following are *examples* of prohibited activities:

- 1.) Walking a dog, unless on a leash. Any solid digestive track waste must be retrieved and removed from cemetery.
- 2.) Horseback riding
- 3.) Motorcycles, mopeds, snowmobiles, skateboards, bicycles, and off-road vehicles
- 4.) Loud or raucous behavior inappropriate for the setting
- 5.) Unauthorized gatherings unrelated to the functions of a cemetery

TRUSTEES CAN BE CONTACTED AT TOWN OFFICE
ONE DALTON ROAD, BRENTWOOD, NH 03833 642-6400 EXT. 14

FLOWERS AND GRAVE DECORATIONS

- 1.) Cut flowers, plastic or silk flowers, and decorations left at a grave must not interfere with the maintenance of the site nor be allowed to become unattractive. The Superintendent is charged with removal of such items at his / her discretion when they become unsightly or hinder the discharge of the responsibility to keep the cemetery grounds attractive.
- 2.) Flowers may be planted around the base of the monument, but must be contained within an area not more than 12 inches from the base and must be located within the confines of the Lot and not in any pathway adjacent to the Lot. Should the plantings become overgrown and unsightly, or be discovered to be outside the parameters stated, the groundskeepers are authorized to take steps to remove them. The provision for adding money to the Perpetual Care Trust Fund for annual flower plantings has been discontinued, but existing arrangements will continue to be honored.
- 3.) Flower pots, baskets, and small urns may be used providing, where there is space, they will rest on the base of the monument and not on the ground where they will need to be handled by groundskeepers.
- 4.) Glass containers are not permitted.
- 5.) The Trustees are charged with providing normal maintenance, such as timely mowing and trimming, but individual Lot Owners are obliged to render special, individual care that is in keeping with these Rules and Regulations. Watering, weeding, and other special care required of plantings are *not* the responsibility of the groundskeepers.
- 6.) Major alterations in the landscape of Lots and Plots must be submitted in writing with specific details and will require authorization of the Board of Trustees.
- 7.) Shrubs and trees : Planting shrubs and trees is not permitted. In the case of existing shrubs and trees, the groundskeepers will not be required to prune nor trim them, but will take appropriate steps when they should interfere with mowing, become unsightly, or pose a potential problem to other grave sites.
- 8.) Flag holders : These must be placed close to the monument so as not to require movement when mowing.
- 9.) In general, structures and objects that interfere with mowing - other than as authorized above - are not allowed.

This information has been excerpted from the official Rules and Regulations adopted by the Cemetery Trustees in 2005, a copy of which may be obtained at the Town Office, One Dalton Road. (642-6400 EXT. 14)

Trustees of Cemeteries: Albert Edward Belanger, Douglas Finan, John Stevens

Clerk: Phyllis Thompson

Superintendent: Robert Gilbert

PERMITS

PERMITS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES IN THE TONRY CEMETERY, EACH OF WHICH ALSO **MUST BE PRE-APPROVED** BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF CEMETERIES:

1. **CASKET BURIALS**
2. **CREMATION BURIALS**
3. **REMOVAL OF REMAINS**
4. **INSTALLATION OF MONUMENTS, MARKERS, AND THEIR FOUNDATIONS** (*Restrictions apply*)
5. **ADDITIONAL INSCRIPTIONS ON EXISTING MONUMENTS**
6. **REMOVAL OR REPAIR OF MONUMENTS**
7. **GRAVESTONE RUBBINGS** (*With permission only*)

For specific details concerning the above permits, contact the Cemetery Superintendent at the Town Office at One Dalton Road (642-6400 EXT. 14)



