

Davis Cemetery District
820 Pole Line Rd.
Davis, CA 95618

Rules and Regulations

The absolute control of the cemetery grounds in every particular is vested in the Board; interment rights owners and others are entitled only to such privileges within the grounds as are provided by these rules and regulations. The following rules regulating the general care of graves and cemetery grounds are intended to provide a safe and secure setting for cemetery visitors.

Flowers and Plants:

1. Every reasonable effort will be made to care for flowers and containers placed on graves, but neither the Cemetery District nor any of its employees will be responsible for anything of a movable nature that may be lost, stolen, or misplaced.
2. No person shall plant any plant material on cemetery grounds. Donations of plant materials are acceptable; such plant materials will be selected and planted under direction of the Superintendent.
3. Flower vases shall be set in the ground (not in the concrete border), flush with the ground and 1" minimum from marker. Any optional setting must be authorized by the Superintendent. No "half set" vases are allowed.
4. Flowers may be placed only in Cemetery approved flower vases, or if not available, in unbreakable containers (no ceramic or glass) placed at the head of the grave. Containers should not exceed one gallon in size. Flowers in such temporary containers are subject to removal and disposal by District personnel. No planting is permitted in any vase.
5. Mosquito gel is required in all vases and containers, both temporary and permanent, for the purpose of mosquito control. Gel may be obtained free of charge from cemetery staff. Any container capable of holding water and not containing such gel is subject to removal by cemetery staff.
6. No person shall place or pour sand, gravel, rocks, cement, casting plaster, or metal of any kind in vases, cans, or flower containers because of hazards to equipment and public safety. Violations are subject to removal by cemetery staff.
7. Holiday decorations will be removed thirty days after the holiday has passed. If decorations exhibit discoloration, fading, or deterioration cemetery employees will remove and dispose of them.
8. No person shall place on any grave statues, toys, boxes, globes, shells, cans, jugs, bottles, rocks, pebbles, breakable objects, bric-a-brac of any description or any other object unless approved in advance by the Superintendent. The District reserves the right to reject or remove any temporary or permanent items deemed inappropriate by the Superintendent.

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9. No person shall gather flowers nor disturb the growing plants on any plot for which they do not hold burial rights. Children are not to climb monuments and must be under the control of a supervising adult.
11. Except in the excavation for the completion of a burial, no person shall displace any earth or in any way damage the cemetery grounds or leave any grass, earth or rubbish of any kind. Dead flowers, discarded mosquito gel, and other rubbish must be placed in containers provided for that purpose.
12. If any tree, shrub, plant or vine situated on any plot shall, by reason of roots, branches, height, or shade become detrimental or unsightly to adjacent plots, paths, streets or cemetery grounds, the Superintendent, or any other person authorized by the Board, may enter upon such plot and remove or trim such tree, shrub, plant or vine as deemed necessary.
13. Any burning of incense or any combustible material shall require advance approval of the Superintendent. No combustible materials shall be left on a grave or elsewhere on the cemetery grounds.

BURIALS

Grave/plot owners, morticians and other authorized persons shall comply with the following regulations in the use of graves/plots for burial purposes:

14. No services in connection with burial will be made until charges for such services as fixed by the Board have been paid in advance to the superintendent or other authorized employee of the District.
15. A combination of four (4) burials may take place in full graves: 1 casket + 3 cremains, two (2) caskets and two (2) cremains, OR four (4) cremains. No more than two (2) caskets may be interred into any full grave. Cremation graves/plots shall be limited to one (1) burial for single plots and two (2) for double plots.
16. A minimum notice of 2 work days must be provided for interment or disinterment.
17. No casket shall be opened before, during, or following a graveside service.
18. A burial permit must, in all cases, be provided before interment of any remains. A FAX copy of the permit will be accepted, with the original to be provided within five (5) days.
19. A minimum container of cloth covered wood casket with handles is required for all standard casket interments. However, for green burials, a wicker basket or a body wrapped in a shroud shall be acceptable.
20. Vaults shall be used for all standard casket interments. Vaults without bottoms will be permitted as requested. For green burials, only the vault lid will be used.
21. No grave shall be graded or mounded and the top of the grave shall be level with the surrounding lot when fully settled.

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22. No burial right holder shall allow interment to be made in his/her plot for remuneration.
23. Except when ordered by a court, disinterments will be at the discretion of the superintendent. When allowed, district personnel will open the grave and/or vault. The District shall not be responsible for the removal of the casket, vault, remains, or for any damages to the vault, casket or remains. The cemetery superintendent may, at his or her discretion, mandate that all family members remain off of cemetery grounds during the actual disinterment procedure.
24. The District does not permit or accept the whole body interment of animal remains under any circumstances. The District does not permit the interment of cremated animal remains unless co-interred in the same grave at the same time as accompanying human remains are being interred into the grave. Only cremated remains of animals will be permitted to be co-interred with human remains. The cremated remains of the animal must be contained within a separate container.

Markers:

25. Cemetery memorial marker physical dimensions will be governed by the Monument Regulations table. All markers must be a minimum 3" thick or set into 5" thick concrete foundation. Memorial markers shall be made of granite, marble, U.S. Standard bronze, or other material approved by the Superintendent. The Board, however, reserves the right to review and allow or disallow markers of other kinds and character upon prior written application by burial rights holders.
26. The District is not liable for damage, theft, vandalism or deterioration of markers.
27. Markers are to be set by cemetery or regular monument company employees only.
28. The thickness of the cement foundation is to be determined by the Superintendent. The maximum number of markers per casket plot will be limited to two (2). Markers will be placed at the west end of a casket plot except for the T section in which markers will be placed at the north end. Markers on cremation plots will be placed according to the existing layout of area. Raised markers are permitted on select sites at the discretion of the Superintendent and upon payment of appropriate height surcharges.
29. The District reserves the right to reject placement of a gravestone for either symbology or verbiage deemed inappropriate by the Superintendent. All final monument etchings must be pre-approved by cemetery staff before placement.
30. Memorial markers must bear the inscription of MMO indicating the there are no interred human remains associated with said marker.

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31. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to make improvements to any grave and/or plot in any portion of the Cemetery grounds at any time at the cost of the District.
32. The District reserves the right to control ALL aspects of marker and monument setting, ie. location, position, orientation, concrete borders, flower vases etc.

Green Burial

In keeping with the intention of a green burial to hasten the return of the body to the earth and to integrate the remains within the cycles of nature, the green burial option for single or companion interment will be offered if the following conditions are met:

33. The body is not embalmed.
34. Any wrap or container/casket is made of biodegradable material such as wood, wicker, or natural fiber.

Green Burial Process

35. No vault or grave liner will be used.
36. The body or container will be placed on the earth at the bottom of the grave.
37. Earth will be packed directly around and over the body or container.
38. To ensure that the plot remains flat and stable enough to bear the weight of cemetery equipment and markers, a vault lid will be placed on the packed dirt above the body. In the case of a companion green burial, a separate vault lid will be used for each interment.
39. Additional dirt will be packed on top of the lid before turf is replaced.
40. Shrouded bodies not in containers must be firmly secured to a biodegradable pallet before removal from the hearse or other conveyance, unless family of the deceased should elect to transport the body from the conveyance to the floor of the grave. District employees shall not come into contact with the body and the District shall not be responsible for the body until it is in full contact with the floor of the grave. No person shall enter a grave which is not fully shored in compliance with District policy. Further policies are listed under "Safety Program" above.

Fees and Charges:

From time to time the Board shall review and establish the prices at which burial rights shall be sold, the fees for opening and closing graves, and the fees for all other services performed by the District in connection with the use of the cemetery grounds, including additional fees for performing such services other than during the normal times established by these rules and regulations. A schedule of the current fees shall be available for inspection at all reasonable hours in the office of the District.

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In addition to the above fees and charges the Board shall establish the amount to be paid by purchaser for deposit into the endowment care fund in accordance with Section 8738 of the California Health and Safety Code.

Non-resident fees shall be charged for burial of a person who is not living or paying taxes in the District at the time of death but who is eligible for burial in a cemetery of the District by Sections 8893 and 8961 through 8961.1 of the California Health and Safety Code.

The non-resident fee will be assessed as follows:

41. **No Charge:** Non-resident dies within 1 year of leaving the District after having been a resident
or taxpayer for 10 or more years.
42. **Full Fee:** Non-resident has never been a resident or taxpayer of District.
43. **Half Fee:** Non-resident was a former resident or taxpayer but does not qualify for the "No Charge" fee. Members of the district who do not pay property taxes such as residents of West Sacramento and Clarksburg will also pay a half fee.

Liability:

The District, its Board, all individual members of the Board, the superintendent and all other personnel of the District shall not be responsible for injury or damage suffered by any persons, including children, in their use of the cemetery grounds. Any persons visiting the cemetery shall do so at their own risk.