

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Village of Pinckney Council, at a regularly scheduled meeting, on July 13, 2015 approved changes to the Pinckney Village Cemetery Rules & Regulations. Highlighted changes are summarized below.

Decoration of Sites:

The Cemetery reserves the right to remove all flowers, wreaths or other decorations from lots as soon as they become unsightly. Excess placements of décor will be removed without notice. Please speak with your family members to share the placement of one or two items only. It is our goal to keep the grounds neat, clean and respectful for all users.

The following rules shall be observed with regard to the decoration of cemetery lots.

- I. Copings, fences, curbs, benches, steps, stones, structures of wood or other perishable materials are prohibited. However, landscape edging is encouraged for use within twelve (12) inches from the front of the monument or marker. These structures or enclosures established on any lot previous to the adoption of these regulations which have, in the judgment of the Cemetery Sexton, become unsightly by reason of neglect or age, shall be removed.
- II. No elevated mounds shall be built and no lot shall be filled above the grade established by the Cemetery Sexton.
- III. Plantings of flowers are permitted within twelve (12) inches from the front of the monument or marker and receptacles for cut flowers will be permitted only if installed in-line, meaning east and/or west of the monument or marker, with the markers or monuments on the gravesite. **The use of glass jars or bottles as receptacles for cut flowers is strictly prohibited.**
- IV. Artificial flowers made from silk or similar materials will be permitted only as long as properly maintained and confined to receptacles intended for cut flowers. Such flowers shall be removed without prior notice by the designated Sexton when they become unsightly by reason of neglect or age.
- V. Winter decorations will be allowed on graves from November 15th until March 15th or two weeks before Easter, whichever comes first.
- VI. Arches for hanging baskets and urns shall be permitted only if properly installed and maintained, and only if installed in-line with markers or monuments as approved by the Cemetery Sexton. **No placement at the foot of the grave.**
- VII. **Floral décor is limited to one item per headstone and will be removed if it becomes unsightly.**
- VIII. The Cemetery Sexton will remove all flowers, trees, and shrubs which have become unsightly, dangerous or are encroaching onto another gravesite.
- IX. One (1) flag holder will be allowed for each veteran's grave.
- X. No deciduous tree or conifer shall be removed or pruned except under the direction and with the consent of the Sexton.
- XI. **Planting of trees, shrubs or flowering bushes is not allowed.** Existing trees and shrubs will be removed, without notice, if in the judgment of the Sexton they constitute a danger or they are encroaching on another's burial plot.

There are four ways in which decorations are usually removed:

- 1) Regular Maintenance: Items that are unsightly are typically removed each week during the growing season.
- 2) General Cemetery Clean-up: All decorations are removed from graves four times each year, typically in the months of March, May, September and November. This is done to ensure a thorough cleaning of the properties. Notifications of these clean-up times are typically posted in advance on the cemetery gates and on the village website and the Pinckney Historical Cemetery Facebook page. Due to the volume of decorations being removed, it is impossible to make provision to claim items after they have been removed. Therefore, should families desire to retain items, they must be removed prior to the scheduled clean-up dates.
- 3) Decorations not complying with Rules: Cemetery employees work in the various sections of the cemeteries on a regular basis. As part of their responsibilities, they maintain the beauty and safety of the cemeteries. As instructed by the Rules & Regulations, to ensure their safety, and the safety of all who visit the cemeteries, they are expected to remove decorations which are not in compliance.
- 4) Wind and Theft: Decorations may also be removed by either of these causes. As it is impossible for employees to be everywhere at all times, the cemeteries cannot assume liability for decorations. When items are blown about, the grounds crew has no choice but to dispose of them as replacement at specific sites is not possible.

For a complete list of rules please see the sign boards in the cemetery or the cemetery page at villageofpinckney.org