

Cortland Rural Cemetery – General Rules & Regulations

The Cortland Rural Cemetery seeks to provide a peaceful, aesthetically pleasing, and well-maintained resting place for deceased any and all members of our community entrusted to our care. In order to fulfill this commitment – while *also* fostering a setting that is equally respectful to all – we have established these General Rules & Regulations.

Hours:

- **Cemetery grounds:** The Cortland Rural Cemetery's grounds are open to visitors and families from 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m., 7 days a week, year-round. (For your safety, and to reduce damage to the Cemetery's grounds and grave markers, portions of the Cemetery grounds will be closed to automotive and foot traffic during winter: When our winter-season road blocks are up, please refrain from driving or walking beyond these barriers.)
- **Gibson Chapel & Mausoleum:** Visitors supplied with electronic key codes for the Gibson Chapel & Mausoleum are strongly encouraged to limit their visitations to the hours outlined above.
- **Office:** The Cemetery office is open Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. year round. For information or assistance beyond these, please contact the office by calling/leaving a voicemail at: 607-756-6022.

Gravesites:

- **Natural plantings:** Families of those buried in our Cemetery are responsible for the maintenance and care of any plantings (including fine grass trimming) immediately adjacent to their respective grave markers. Plantings of annuals or perennial flowers within 1 ft. of a marker are allowed. However, plantings of shrubs, bushes, or trees are prohibited unless written permission is obtained from the Cemetery's management. And in all cases, the Cemetery reserves the right to trim or remove any natural plantings that become overgrown, are unsightly, or extend beyond the 1 ft. distance.
- **Cut flowers & urns:** While the use of artificial flowers is prohibited, the Cemetery does allow for the placement of cut flowers and urns. This being said, (a) the Cemetery cannot be responsible for tipped, broken, stolen, or displaced items of this kind; (b) we reserve the right to remove and discard any such items that are damaged or pose a hazard during mowing; (c) any items of this type should be removed by October 31st of each year; thereafter, the Cemetery reserves the right to remove and dispose of such items during its pre- or post-winter clean up.
- **Other memorial items:** The Cemetery strongly discourages the use of memorial items at gravesides (e.g.: balloons, notes, photographs, sentimental items, etc.) other than those described above. The Cemetery cannot be responsible should such items be damaged or stolen. And we reserve the right to remove/dispose of such items at our discretion.

Gibson Chapel & Mausoleum:

- **Cut flowers, artificial flowers & other memorial items:** The Cemetery discourages families and visitors from leaving cut flowers, artificial flowers, or other kinds of memorial items (e.g.: balloons, notes/artwork/photographs, sentimental items, etc.) in the Gibson Chapel & Mausoleum. Should such items be deposited, the Cemetery cannot be responsible if such items are damaged or stolen. Moreover, the Cemetery itself – out of respect for other families whose loved ones are housed in this facility -- reserves the right to remove and dispose of such items at its own discretion.

Burial rules & regulations:

The Cortland Rural Cemetery operates – and manages burials, year-round – in accordance with all applicable New York State laws. To learn more about burial options, rules, and regulations (including those related to winter-burials) -- contact our Cemetery office; or visit the NYS Department of State / Division of Cemeteries web pages located at:

<http://www.dos.ny.gov/cmty/index.html>

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