



Department of Commerce

Division of Real Estate & Professional Licensing

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Cemetery Minimum Maintenance Guidelines

Cemetery Minimum Maintenance Guidelines
Ohio Cemetery Dispute Resolution Commission

Ohio Revised Code Section 4767.06 (H): Adopt and publish suggested maintenance guidelines for all cemeteries registered in the state of Ohio under Chapter 4767 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Grounds and Structure

- Cut grass once a month during the growing season.
- Trim around markers/monuments once a year.
- Remove underbrush, leaves, tree seedlings and dead trees and flowers.
- Remove trash and funeral flowers once a month (artificial flowers once a year).
- Sod or seed graves as necessary within one year of interment.
- Set foundations for new markers that have been ordered within one calendar year.
- Maintain and repair roads, buildings, structures and fencing as needed.
- Mark the perimeter of the cemetery.

Management and Maintenance of Rules, Regulations and Records

- Cemetery management contact information should be posted at the main public entrance of the cemetery and at the onsite office, if there is one.
- Cemetery records pertaining to interment right owners and burial records should be maintained in the cemetery's office. Hard copies of these records should be maintained in a fireproof container. If possible, duplicate copies should also be maintained off-site.
- All graves or lots should be identified by a map that is stored in the office of the cemetery per Ohio Revised Code Section 1721.09
- The cemetery should maintain records for identifying interment spaces.
- Each lot should be pinned, and the owner's name should be recorded.
- Cemeteries should conduct all interments within seven days of the date of the order unless waived by the next of kin or other responsible party.
- Rules regarding flowers and decorations should be posted at the cemetery.
- The vault or any other burial container should be placed at least twelve inches below grade.
- The cemetery's rules and regulations should be provided upon request.

Cemetery Registration
615 West Superior Avenue, 12th Floor
Cleveland, OH 44113-1801

For inquiries regarding cemeteries, please contact Ted Hornyak:
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