



Oak Park Cemetery Grave Decoration Policy

General Policy:

The overall appearance of the cemetery grounds is very important. Flowers and decorations placed at gravesites, when properly located and maintained, can accent the park-like setting.

Decoration Placement:

Gravesite plantings and decorations cannot infringe upon an adjacent space. The only exception is when two adjoining spaces are owned by one person. For maintenance, safety, and aesthetic reasons, plantings and decorations may be placed only within a defined area:

- May extend a maximum of 12" from the front of the headstone/marker.
- May not exceed the width of the grave site.
- May not exceed 24" tall.

Permanent Plantings:

New installation of in-ground, permanent plantings is not permitted as of January 1, 2024. In-ground plantings placed prior to this time must be maintained by the gravesite owner. In-ground plantings may not exceed 24" tall when fully mature. Regulated materials such as pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizer may not be applied. Dead, dying, overgrown, or untended plantings may be removed by cemetery staff. Plantings removed after January 1, 2024 may not be replaced with in-ground plantings due to maintenance concerns.

Decorations:

Each site may have up to three decorative items, including holiday decorations. All decorations must be placed within the standard 12" perimeter detailed above. Allowed decorations are limited to:

- **Fresh-Cut and Faux Flowers** - Flowers are the preferred gravesite decoration.
- **Fresh and Faux Potted Plantings** - Pots must be of an unbreakable material.
- **Banners/Flags** – May not exceed 18"x18". Limit one flag/banner per grave space.
- **Holiday Decorations** – Items may be placed ten days before the recognized holiday and must be removed ten days following the holiday.

Balloons, breakable items, and consumable items are not permitted.

All plantings and decorations are the gravesite owner's responsibility. Decorations that are non-compliant, excessive (more than three), unsightly, worn, or detrimental will be removed at the discretion of cemetery personnel. A comprehensive clean-up is conducted a minimum of one time per month; however, non-compliant decorations may be removed at any time. Removed items will not be recoverable.

Oak Park Cemetery does not recommend leaving items of sentimental or intrinsic value at the gravesite. Oak Park cannot be held responsible for their safekeeping, and such items may be removed by cemetery personnel if determined to be non-compliant with this policy.