

**MOUNT PLEASANT/OAK HILL CEMETERY
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**Located in Providence Township
14180 Bailey Road
Grand Rapids, Ohio 43522
Lucas County, Ohio**

**Phone: 419-875-6531
Fax: 419-875-6503**

www.providencetwp.org

EFFECTIVE 04-18-2007

Providence Township Board of Trustees
Lucas County
13257 Perry Road
Grand Rapids, Ohio 43522
419-875-6531 (office phone)
419-875-6503 (office fax)
www.providencetwp.org

Meetings: 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm

Trustees:

Steve Kendall	419-832-3224 (home)
Lance W. Martin	419-832-3974 (home)
Steve Perry	419-875-6229 (home)

Fiscal Officer:

Gail Perry	419-875-6531 (office)
	419-875-6503 (fax)
	419-875-6229 (home)

Solicitor:

David Chamberlain	419-***-****
	419-877-0499 (fax)

Fire Chief:

Jeffery M. Bretzloff	419-875-6592 (office)
	419-875-6662 (fax)

Zoning Inspector:

Eric Gay	419-877-0156
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Cemetery Sexton:

Craig Hefflinger	419-875-6531 (office)
	419-392-6544 (cell)
	419-875-6503 (fax)

MOUNT PLEASANT/OAK HILL CEMETERY

Providence Township
Lucas County, Ohio

Graves:	Resident	Non-Resident
Single grave space:	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00

Interments:

Weekday Burials Before 3:00 PM

Regular Burial	\$ 200.00	\$ 400.00
Cremation Burial	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Cremation Burial with a vault	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Baby Burial (*casket length not to exceed 36 inches)	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00

Weekday Burials 3:00 PM and after

Regular Burial	\$ 300.00	\$ 500.00
Cremation Burial	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Cremation Burial with a Vault	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Baby Burial (*casket length not to exceed 36 inches)	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00

SATURDAYS/SUNDAYS/HOLIDAYS

Regular Burial	\$ 300.00	\$ 500.00
Cremation Burial	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Cremation Burial with a Vault	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Baby Burial (*casket length not to exceed 36 inches)	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00

DISINTERMENT (RESIDENT/NON-RESIDENT)

Disinterment (weekdays only)	\$ 400.00**
Disinterment (infant) (weekdays only)	\$ 150.00**
Disinterment cremation (weekdays only)	\$ 150.00**
Disinterment cremation with a vault (weekdays only)	\$ 200.00**

*Papers required for above disinterment

Cremation Burial: up to six on one single grave space

Cremation Burial: with vault only two per single space

Foundations for stone must be installed by the cemetery sexton at 0.25 cents per square inch. Contact Craig Hefflinger at (419) 875-6531 7:00 am to 3:30 pm Monday through Friday.

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MOUNT PLEASANT/OAK HILL CEMETERY RULES AND REGULATIONS

INTRODUCTION

Mt. Pleasant Cemetery/Oak Hill Cemetery is located at 14180 Bailey Road, two-tenths of a mile east of the Henry/Lucas County Line Road and west of the Providence-Neapolis-Swanton Road.

A sandy, sloping hill was chosen, probably as a family cemetery and then expanded to include the neighborhood families. It was a free cemetery and it was said that wagon loads of bodies were brought from Providence Village to the cemetery during the cholera epidemic of 1854.

A privately operated cemetery, named Oak Hill, was established on September 21, 1895 to the west of Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, containing 1 7/8 acres. On April 14, 1914, it was incorporated into the township system to be used as a public cemetery. Around 1940, land between the Oak Hill Cemetery and the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery was purchased. This section became the Mt. Pleasant Addition. This unites the parcels together forming one perfect symmetry.

In 1998, dirt was brought in to the North/West 3 to 4 acre parcel and has since been grassed over. This section has been named the Oak Hill Addition. Sale of lots will begin in 2007 – 2008.

PURPOSE

The rules herein established are designed for the protection of lot owners. Enforcement of these Rules and Regulations will help protect our cemetery and create and preserve its beauty. It is the intention of the Cemetery Sexton and the Providence Township Board of Trustees to establish and enforce the rules/regulations for the express purpose of ensuring that Mt. Pleasant Cemetery continues to remain one of Providence Township's major assets.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

1. General

- a. Mt. Pleasant Cemetery shall be under the control of the Providence Township Board of Trustees and its designated Cemetery Sexton. They shall maintain the drives and keep in general good condition all burial lots and grassed areas. The Cemetery Sexton shall be responsible for planting and maintaining any and all trees and grass.
- b. Residents are those who reside within the boundaries of Providence Township. All others are considered non-residents.
- c. The cost of graves, foundations, interments, and any other charges are established by the Providence Township Board of Trustees. Copies of the fee schedule can be obtained at the Township Hall by calling 419-875-6531 or by visiting the Providence Township website at www.providencetwp.org.
- d. In order to perpetuate the beauty and continuity of the cemetery, the Providence Township Board of Trustees reserves the right to enforce all rules and regulations here set forth and others that might seem necessary for a particular situation.

2. Purchase of Lots

- a. The Cemetery Sexton will take all reasonable precautions to protect grave owners and the property rights of grave owners, within the cemetery, from loss or damage; but the Cemetery Sexton/Providence Township Board of Trustees distinctly disclaims all responsibility for loss or damage from causes beyond its reasonable control, and especially from damage caused by the elements, an act of God, common enemy, thieves, vandals, strikers, malicious mischief makers, explosions, unavoidable accidents, invasions, insurrections, riots, or order of any military or civil authority, whether the damage be direct or collateral, other than as herein provided.
- b. Purchasers of a grave shall receive a deed entitling them use of said grave for burial of human remains, subject to the Rules and Regulations of Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Providence Township Board of Trustees and the laws of the State of Ohio.
- c. Graves cannot be sold once purchased, except back to the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, subject to the approval of the Providence Township Board of Trustees, at the original purchase price. The Providence Township Board of Trustees reserves the right of refusal to repurchase.

d. Providence Township Board of Trustees reserves the right to modify the layout of the cemetery as appropriate.

e. The Cemetery Sexton reserves the right to move an upright marker to facilitate grave digging.

f. The Providence Township Board of Trustees reserves the right to exclude from any lot, headstone, monument, other structure or other object, which may conflict with the regulations, or which may be considered hazardous or offensive to the public or injurious to the general appearance of the grounds, lawns or graves.

3. Ownership Rights or Interment

a. Upon the death of the holder or part-holder of a grave, the rights of the grave will descend to his/her heirs as stated in the will or in accordance with the laws of descent of the State of Ohio.

b. If the owner of a grave gives permission for others to be buried on a remaining grave, this permission must be given in writing to the Cemetery Sexton. The owner's signature shall be notarized.

4. Interment

a. Burials shall be permitted only with a proper burial permit signed by the funeral director. All charges for opening and closing of a grave space shall be paid in full the day of burial.

b. The Cemetery Sexton shall be notified at least 24 hours prior to the time of interment.

c. All caskets of the deceased are to be encased in a concrete vault. (Caskets for infants shall be encased in a non-decomposable baby vault.)

d. All funerals on entering the cemetery shall be under charge of the Cemetery Sexton.

e. All burials shall conform to the rules of the Board of Health of the State of Ohio. All graves shall be dug by cemetery personnel and shall be paid for in advance, or guaranteed by the funeral director. The interment of two bodies in one grave is permitted only when one is a cremation or an infant and is accompanied with proper certification.

5. Cremations

a. Cremains in acceptable urns are allowed. Six such burials will be permitted in a single grave, however only one marker is allowed. Cremains in a acceptable urn, using an acceptable vault are allowed, however, only two acceptable vaults are permitted in a single grave, using only one marker.

b. The sprinkling of ashes is not allowed on cemetery grounds.

6. Disinterment/Removals

a. Disinterment shall be arranged with the Cemetery Sexton upon notice of one week. It will be made during business hours and paid for in advance.

b. Disinterments will be made in the manner prescribed by the laws of the State of Ohio. A Disinterment Permit is also required.

7. Indigent Funerals

a. Ohio Revised Code 5101.52.1 provides that a township or municipal corporation has the statutory obligation to pay the burial or cremation expenses for deceased indigents who were residents at the time of death or whose bodies are not claimed by family members willing to pay funeral expenses.

b. The right of disposition in Ohio to a next-of-kin's ability to control the disposition without paying for it is clear under Section 2108.89 of the Ohio Revised Code.

c. Any person who elects to exercise this right of disposition under the statute shall be personally liable for the cost of any goods or services purchased in connection with the exercise of that right.

d. The Providence Township Board of Trustees and the Cemetery Sexton will decide the method of disposition for indigent funerals. Unless the family members are willing to incur the cost of the disposition they prefer, they will have no voice in the disposition.

e. The Providence Township Board of Trustees and the Cemetery Sexton will also decide which funeral home to use and the township's payment for any type of funeral ceremonies or services. It will also decide what disposition will be made of the cremated remains. It could direct that the cremated remains be delivered to the next-of-kin if so requested.

f. The Providence Township Board of Trustees will contribute up to \$ 750.00 toward the funeral expenses of an indigent (03/2007).

8. Monument Specifications

a. Burial stones, footstones, or any form of monument shall be approved as to the material design and location as proper by the Cemetery Sexton and/or the Board of Trustees upon application for a foundation.

b. All monuments shall be placed on a concrete foundation. These foundations must be a minimum of 4 inches larger than the monument in length and width and 36 inches deep. Only cemetery personnel can prepare these foundations.

c. Monuments and memorials may not be set without prior approval and confirmation of the exact grave location by the Cemetery Sexton. Any unauthorized memorial work will be removed from the grave until proper arrangements have been made. This will be at the expense of the lot owner.

d. Only marble, granite, or bronze will be permitted in all memorial work.

e. Cemetery personnel will not help unload or place any markers for any monument company.

f. Markers shall not exceed 42 inches in overall height, 20 inches in overall width, and 40 inches in overall length for a single grave space and 88 inches for two grave spaces.

g. The temporary marker provided by the funeral directors is assumed to be short lived. The Providence Township Board of Trustees assumes no responsibility for such.

h. Graves of indigent persons will be marked by the Cemetery Sexton at the expense of the Providence Township Board of Trustees. Such marker will be determined by the Providence Township Board of Trustees and the Cemetery Sexton.

9. Marker Cleaning and Repair

a. Over time there will be normal aging and upkeep required for all monuments and markers in the cemetery. These are the personal property of the grave owner. The maintenance and care are the responsibility of the owner. Repairs and maintenance can be obtained from local monument companies.

10. Privileges and Restrictions

a. Hours of Operation

1. The cemetery shall be closed after dark to the public. Violators will be prosecuted under Section 2911.21 O.R.C. The Cemetery Sexton, Board of Trustees, Lucas County Sheriff Dept. shall remove, or cause to be removed, any person, pets, or unwanted animals observed to be in violation of any Resolutions and/or Rules.

b. Conduct of Visitors

1. Visitors are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that accords due respect to the deceased.

2. Any person 16 years old or younger must be accompanied by an adult who will be responsible for their behavior.

3. No motorized or non-motorized vehicles shall be driven in excess of 10 miles per hour.

4. All vehicles (including bicycles) shall be permitted only upon paved or stoned driveways. Horses will be allowed in the cemetery only at funeral processions or parades. Snowmobiles or other forms or recreational transportation are not allowed in the cemetery.

5. Loud noises, loud, boisterous or profane language will not be allowed.

6. Discharge of firearms, per the Ohio Revised Code, will be permitted only as part of military services, funerals or ceremonies. Possession of a firearm shall be in accordance with ORC 2923.126 (c) and 2923.126 (cx3).

7. Buildings, burial stones, plants or trees shall not be defaced, injured, marked upon or removed.

8. Pets, leashed or unleashed, will not be permitted. This prohibition shall not apply to certified animals assisting persons with disabilities.

9. Intoxicating beverages and/or illegal drugs shall not be allowed.

10. No advertising, selling, or soliciting will be permitted.

11. Funeral corteges and all persons entering a cemetery shall be required to follow directions from the Cemetery Sexton or cemetery personnel.

12. Musical instruments or appropriate sound reproducing equipment shall be permitted in funeral services with the permission of the Cemetery Sexton.
13. All persons within the cemetery are prohibited from:
 - a. Gathering flowers (wild, cultivated, or artificial).
 - b. Feeding and/or disturbing the birds and wildlife.
 - c. Care of Graves
 1. No person or persons not employed by the Providence Township Board of Trustees shall excavate any earth, lay or remove any sod, alter the grade of any grave within the cemetery either on or about his/her own grave or the graves of others. The planting of any tree or shrub of any kind is prohibited. Flowers may be placed in pots or vases on or close to stones.
 2. Fences, hedges, post, decorative, stone and enclosures of any kind around graves are prohibited to facilitate mowing.
 3. The date of clean up will be the week of March 15th each year and all decorations will be removed.
 - d. Trees and Shrubs
 1. The cemetery will undertake to maintain, as may be practicable, the planting of trees to preserve and maintain landscape features, but does not undertake to maintain individual plantings as allowed by the Providence Township Board of Trustees. No shrubs are allowed.
 2. The planting of any vegetation, other than defined in the flower policy, is strictly prohibited.
 3. The cemetery is not responsible for personal items and/or other property left, lost or placed on lots or graves.
 - f. Flowers and Floral Decorations Policy

1. Floral tributes, wreaths, etc. may be placed upon monuments. Flowers, including burial flowers, will be removed when they become unsightly, discolored or wilted. All items shall be placed on the foundation when possible.
2. Planting of annuals is allowed. You may plant within 6 to 8 inches around the monument. At no time will annual planting be allowed to extend beyond the 8 inches around the monument.
3. Grave blankets are only permitted between December 1st and March 15th in order not to interfere with lawn maintenance.

g. Regulations Regarding Items Other Than Flowers

1. American flags (all flags) placed may be displayed at graves on Memorial Day and will be removed by cemetery personnel as they become unsightly or discolored.
2. Decorations placed on or around graves that are deemed hazardous or create a maintenance problem will be removed and disposed of by cemetery personnel.

SUGGESTIONS

1. Prospective patrons may feel free to visit the cemetery for information without obligation to select.
2. Lot owners are urged to contact the Cemetery Sexton or the Providence Township Board of Trustees at any time if the meaning or intent of these Rules and Regulations are not clear or if other information is desired.

DISCLAIMER

The cemetery is intended to serve as the final resting place for qualified persons and is essential that certain guidelines exist to ensure that the integrity, beauty and maintenance of the cemetery not be interrupted. All lot owners, visitors and contractors who perform work within the cemetery shall be subject to these Rules and Regulations. Although these Rules and Regulations are comprehensive in scope, they are not all encompassing. It is recognized that situations not addressed, within this document may arise from time to time. In those instances, the decision of the Providence Township Board of Trustees is final and may not be appealed.

These Rules and Regulations supersede and replace any/all previously issued Rules and Regulations and are effective 04-18-2007. The Providence Township Board of Trustees reserves the right to review and revise rules and/or regulations at its discretion.

Sextons of Mt. Pleasant Cemetery

1882 – 1885	Wm. Chanell
1885 – 1905	Wm. Kurtz
1906 – 1910	Frank Perry
1911 – 1915	Wm. Ross
1916 – 1917	Wm. Schultz
1918 – 1920	George Roach
1921 – 1922	A. J. Geahlen
1923	B. Tasker
1924 – 1925	S. S. Shonk
1926 – 1929	August Kosch
1930	Wm. Ross
1931 – 1932	G. D. Heller
1933	A. L. LaPlante
1934 – 1938	G. C. Foor
1939	J. W. Tester
1940 – 1941	G. F. Foor
1942	Ralph Tester
1943 – 1945	Grover Foor
1946 – 1947	Ralph Tester

1948 Julian Bostelman

1949 – 1965 Earl Baldwin

1966 – 1985 Neil Hefflinger

1985 – present Craig Hefflinger