

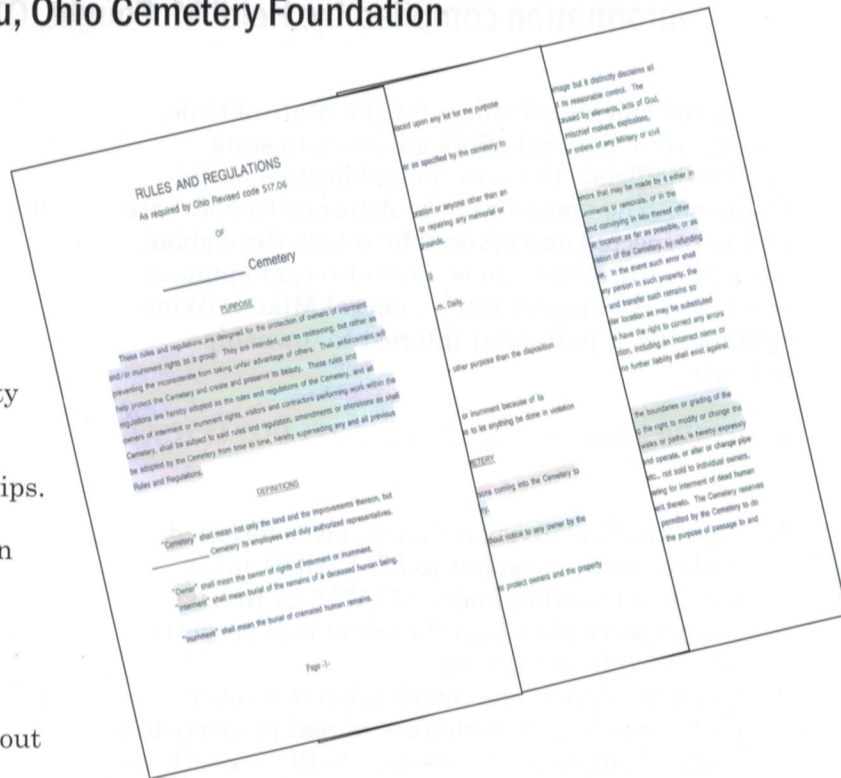
Cemetery Rules and Regulations

By: David Shanteau, Ohio Cemetery Foundation

Every Ohio cemetery is obligated to have and make available a set of rules and regulations. Hopefully, your cemetery's rules and regulations are up-to-date and speak to the vital issues within your cemetery. Rules and regulations are the playbook by which the cemetery and its clients must conduct themselves in relationship and protection of each other's rights and responsibilities within the property. Ultimately, the rules and regulations help maintain the beauty and serenity of the cemetery.

A sample set of rules and regulations are available on the OTA website at www.ohiotownships.org, under Publications, then Magazine. The following is a list of recommendations to include in your cemetery procedures.

1. What are the rules for?
2. Include definitions.
3. The cemetery has the right to:
 - Enforce the rules and regulations;
 - Change the rules and regulations without notice;
 - Correct any errors; and
 - Enlarge, reduce, replant all ground within the cemetery.
4. The interment or entombment rights are sold subject to the amount posted and must be paid prior to use.
5. Each interment or inurnment right should include a Warranty Deed or certificate of ownership.
6. All work in the cemetery must be done by cemetery employees.
7. The cemetery must approve all sales of interment or inurnment rights.
8. The cemetery shall have the right to remove offensive memorials or monumental inscriptions.
9. All openings and closings must be paid in advance of the performed service.
10. The cemetery has the right to have authorized parties appear at the cemetery to select the correct grave to be opened and to sign an authorization form designating such.
11. The cemetery has the right to schedule times for all services.
12. All disinterment or disinurnments shall comply with cemetery rules and regulations and Ohio State Law.
13. The rules and regulations shall stipulate the amount of cremation burials that are allowed per grave.
14. The rules and regulations should include flower and decorating policies.



A sample set of rules and regulations for cemeteries is available on the OTA website at www.ohiotownships.org.