

MAPLE GROVE CEMETERY

RULES AND REGULATIONS

HISTORY: Maple Grove Cemetery began in 1908 with the burial of Glenn Billington when Seminole was still known as Tidmore, Oklahoma. Maple Grove Cemetery was incorporated into the City of Seminole in 1926. Also in 1926, Susan A. Simpson dedicated the chapel in memory of her father, O.D. Strother. Maple Grove now encompasses approximately 26.69 acres.

Maple Grove Cemetery is a perpetual care cemetery, which insures that funding will always be available for the maintenance and care of the cemetery.

The following rules and regulations are designed to protect individual grave site owners as well as retain the beauty of the entire grounds.

SECTION I. PURCHASING GRAVE SITES

- A. Definition of Grave Site (site) and Family Plot (plot). A grave site contains space for one burial. A family plot contains two or more grave sites.
- B. Purchase Price and Receiver of Payment. Current grave site prices are listed in Section VI of these rules. Payment for the site/sites is made to the City Clerk of Seminole.
- C. Installment Payment. When a site or sites are purchased, a minimum of 1/3 of the purchase price must be paid at the time of purchase. The remainder must be paid within twelve months from the date of purchase or prior to the grave opening, whichever comes first. The City Clerk must approve all installment payment agreements.
- D. Failure to Make Payment Within Twelve Months. If the site is not paid for within one year after the down payment, the site will revert to the City of Seminole with no refund of the down payment. If more than one site is being purchased by installment, only the site or sites not completely paid for through the installments will revert to the City.
- E. Conveyance of Cemetery Sites. All conveyances of sites to another person must be made through the office of City Clerk. No one will be permitted to sell or convey cemetery sites for more than the purchase price.

SECTION II. INTERMENTS AND DISINTERMENTS.

- A. Sunday and Holiday Prohibition. No interments or disinterments will be allowed on any Sunday or the following holidays: New Year's Day, Fourth of

July, Thanksgiving or Christmas. The only exception is where there has been a death from a contagious disease and the County Health Department provides a written statement that immediate burial is required for the safety of the community.

- B. Permit and Advance Notice. A grave may not be opened without a written permit from the cemetery sexton. All graves must be opened by the cemetery sexton who must receive notice at least eight working hours before the hour of interment or disinterment. Working hours are between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- C. Limit on Interments in Grave Space or Lot. Only one interment is allowed in one grave space with the following three exceptions: a mother and infant, infant twins buried at the same time in the same casket, or no more than one casket and one cremation or two cremations.
- D. Grave Liner Required. A concrete or other approved grave liner will be required for all casket interments.

SECTION III. MARKERS AND MONUMENTS

- A. Definitions.
 - 1. "Grave Marker" – a granite or bronze tablet set flush with the ground.
 - 2. "Monument" – a granite or marble object protruding 18" above the ground used to identify a grave site or family plot.
 - 3. "Corner Stone" – a concrete or granite marker which outlines a family plot.
- B. Prohibition Against Other Objects at Grave Sites. Only markers and monuments which meet the requirements below and are installed according to regulations are allowed at any grave site or family plot. No other objects, with the exception of certain wreaths or flowers, may be placed or installed at the grave site.
- C. Markers for Restricted Section. In the section of the Cemetery designated as restricted, only grave markers will be allowed. All markers must be of granite, marble or bronze and set flush with the ground. All markers in this section must be set at the point on the lot indicated on the blueprint of the restricted section. One grave marker will be allowed for each site. One family marker will be permitted in a family plot of two or more grave sites.
- D. Monuments. Monuments may be placed on a single grave site so long as the monument stays within the four-foot width allotted each grave site. A

monument may also be placed on a family plot of two or more spaces at a site permitted and approved by the sexton. No monument will be allowed to cover a grave.

- E. Corner Stones for Family Plots. Corner stones may be installed only at the corners of a family plot of two or more grave sites. Corner markers must be of a permanent material approved by the sexton, no larger than 5" by 6" and flat so a mower can pass over them.
- F. Requirements for Setting. All monuments larger than 1' by 2' shall require a piling (one piling for every 2 square feet of monument base). Each piling shall have a minimum depth of 24" and 6" in diameter. The concrete foundation shall be a minimum of 4" thick and extend 7" in all directions past the monument or marker. The piling and concrete foundation (Portland cement only) shall be poured as a single unit. Pilings and foundations shall not be poured in freezing weather nor will monuments or markers be set when the ground is soft. All forming material must be removed upon completion.
- G. Persons or Firms Allowed to Set Markers, Headstones and Monuments. The above are often set by the cemetery sexton on his own time. A monument company may set the markers or stones on the condition that all requirements are met, the sexton is notified, and the installation can be supervised by the sexton during normal working hours.

SECTION IV. DECORATING THE GRAVE SITE.

- A. Prohibition on Planting. No individual planting of trees, shrubs, or flowers is allowed in the cemetery. MEMORIAL DONATIONS FOR TREES FOR THE CEMETERY ARE GRATEFULLY APPRECIATED. The type of tree and location must meet the landscaping plan for the cemetery. The tree will be purchased and planted by the Cemetery Department.
- B. Burial Flowers. Following an interment, flowers, including those on wire stands, will be left over the grave only until they turn brown. At this time the sexton will remove them as well as any permanent flowers which do not meet requirements.
- C. Requirement for Vases and Urns for Year-round Decorations. From April 1 through October 31 each year, no flowers or other objects can be left on the grave site except in approved vases or urns, except for the period immediately following a burial and Memorial Day. An approved vase or urn must: (1) be of unbreakable material; (2) be permanently attached to the marker, headstone or monument, and (3) not extend beyond the stone over the foundation.
- D. Memorial Day. For a seven (7) day period beginning on Memorial Day, flowers or other plant material may be placed over the grave. Any plant

material not removed from over the grave at the end of this period will be removed by the sexton.

- E. Seasonal Grave Blankets, Sprays and Wreaths. From November 1 through March 31 each year, plant material, whether permanent or real, may be placed over the grave if it lays flat and is attached so it will not blow away. Real material which has turned brown or any plant material left over the grave beyond March 31 will be removed by the sexton.
- F. Level Grave Sites. All graves will be level with the surrounding ground. Mounds will be removed as soon as the dirt has settled or any depressions filled in.

SECTION V. MISCELLANEOUS.

- A. Burial Restriction. Only the human dead may be buried in Maple Grove.
- B. Gate Opening and Closing. The north gates will be opened at sunrise and closed and locked at sundown.
- C. Park Board Oversight. The Seminole Park Board shall provide oversight of Maple Grove Cemetery, its rules and maintenance.

SECTION VI. BURIAL LOT PRICES AND OTHER FEES.

The following fees are charged at Maple Grove Cemetery:

Grave Site	\$250.00
<u>Permanent Care</u> - \$25% of site fee is applied to perpetual care account.	
Grave Opening (Weekdays)	\$250.00
Grave Opening (Weekends & City Holiday)	\$350.00
Disinterment	\$300.00
Cremation	\$100.00
Cremation (Weekends & City Holiday)	\$150.00

The above rates reflect purchase price of grave sites purchased after February 10, 2004 (Ordinance 970).

(Revised effective February 10, 2004.)