



TOWN OF OXFORD  
CEMETERY  
RULES AND  
REGULATIONS

North Cemetery  
South Cemetery  
Gore Cemetery

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

No decorations allowed at gravesites during Spring and Fall cleanup:

April 1 – April 30  
October 15 – November 20

**INFORMATION:**  
Records 508-987-6006

*Oxford Cemetery Commission 2020*  
[www.town.oxford.ma.us](http://www.town.oxford.ma.us)

(Rules subject to change)

**HOURS:** Town Cemeteries are open from sunrise to sunset.

**PARKING:** Parking is for cemetery visitors only. Parking for any athletic event or “park and ride” is strictly forbidden. Absolutely no parking on grass.

**DRIVING:** Speed limit throughout the cemetery is 10 MPH.

**PETS:** Absolutely no pets allowed, even if leashed.

**FOUNDATIONS:** Foundations are required for all monuments and foot markers. Foundations may be installed/poured by cemetery employees *only*. Foundations may not be closer than 6 inches to the edge of the lot or lots. **Foundation orders MUST be submitted by April 15 for spring installation by September 1 for fall installation.**

**BURIALS:** Only one full-size vault or three cremain burials may be placed in one grave lot. If the full-size vault is buried first, one or two cremain burials may be placed above it. Full-size vaults may not be placed in a lot already containing cremain burials. All vaults are to have a domed cover – no flat covered vaults allowed. Cremations are required to be in durable container approved by the Cemetery Superintendent.

**MONUMENTS:** Monuments are to be made of granite, marble or stone. All monuments must be suitable for the size of the lots and should blend with others in the cemetery. No monument shall exceed 42 inches in height from the foundation nor shall the monument be closer than 4 inches to the edge of the foundation on all sides. For questions concerning style, size and placement in each section, please contact the Cemetery Superintendent for approval.

**DECORATIONS:** Absolutely no glass items, pinwheels, shepherd hooks or balloons allowed. The Cemetery Superintendent, prior to installation, must approve ANY metal item. Solar lights are not permitted. Traditional style Eternal/Vigil lights are acceptable and may be placed next to a raised monument. Decorations must be placed in the area of the planted flowers. Plantings or decorations that are considered unsightly (e.g., weedy, discolored, out of season or broken) or hazardous (e.g., metal, glass, thorns) may be removed without notice. Any item that may be destroyed or relocated due to wind, weather, or force of cemetery maintenance equipment (e.g., mower, trimmer, plow, backhoe) will be removed without notice. The Cemetery Commission is not responsible for storm damage, vandalism or theft.

If any memorial, decoration or any structure whatsoever, or any inscription to be placed on same, shall be determined by the Cemetery Commissioners to be offensive, they shall have the right and it shall be their duty, to enter upon such lot and remove, change or correct the offensive or improper object or objects. No display of nudity (offensive to accepted standards of decency or modesty), profanity, vulgarity and the like shall be allowed.

**FLOWERS:** In lots with raised monuments, flowers may be planted in front and next to the sides only. Flowers may not exceed a distance of 12 inches from the foundation and may not be closer than 6 inches to the edge of the plot. In lots with flat headstone (level to the ground), nothing may be planted. One floral display may be placed on the headstone. *Nothing* may be placed on a flat *foot marker* or *veteran's marker*.

**SHRUBS:** Shrubs may be planted next to the monument if the lot size permits. No shrubs may be planted on a lot owned by another person. No shrub may be closer than 6 inches to the edge of the measured lot from the edge of the shrub. At all times the height of the shrubs must not exceed 4 feet, measured from the foundation. All shrubs must be neatly trimmed in height and width or cemetery personnel without notice will remove them. Absolutely no items with thorns.

**GRASS:** Fertilizing is not allowed if it draws undue attention to grass.

**FENCES:** No fences, walls, rock gardens, bricks or boundary markers may be placed or erected at any lot.

**FLAGS:** Where a veteran is buried, **ONE** American flag is permitted on each Veteran grave. The Cemetery Commission is not responsible for placing flags on graves. (Local Veterans organizations often provide this service at sites in which a Veteran is buried.)

## **DESIGNATED LOTS:**

**INFANT:** Designated Infant Lot may have flat marker only.

**VETERAN:** Designated Veteran Lot is reserved for Town of Oxford Veterans. Proof of military service is required for interment in this section. Veteran lots may not be reserved prior to need. Each lot shall have only one burial/cremains. One *flat bronze veteran marker* is allowed. No decorations, plantings, flowers, shrubs, etc. are allowed. Burial lots are used in order by row and site number. If the spouse of a veteran is also a veteran, the adjacent lot may be reserved for burial. If not used by the surviving veteran spouse at their time of passing, the reservation will be removed.