

# *Wildwood Cemetery*

## *Wilmington, Massachusetts*

### *Rules and Regulations*

The adoption and enforcement of the rules here published are to secure peace and good order within the cemetery, to protect the interest of the lot and grave owners and to preserve the beauty of the grounds. All persons are requested to obey these rules and should report any infraction of them by others to the Public Works Director. These rules and regulations may be amended or altered by the Board of Cemetery Commissioners as circumstances may require.

#### **Eligibility Requirements for Lot Purchase**

1. The purchase of a grave must be for a deceased Wilmington resident or former resident as defined.
2. If the deceased individual is a former resident, they must have been a resident of Wilmington for at least twenty years or ½ of their life.
3. The definition of a nonresident is anyone not presently residing in town who does not meet the conditions of #2. Any resident who has been confined to a hospital, continued care unit, or nursing home out of town will still be considered a resident.

#### **Ownership, Fees & Payments**

1. The proprietors of lots or graves in Wildwood Cemetery, or their legal representatives, shall not grant or convey any right of burial to anyone without having first obtained the approval of the Town, but it shall be optional with the Town to grant or withhold such approval.
2. Upon the death of the owner of a lot or grave, title shall pass in accordance with Massachusetts law. Heirs of the deceased owner may designate among themselves a representative for the lot or grave.
3. The spouse of a deceased owner has the right of burial.
4. The current prices for graves and services are available from the DPW Administrative Office located at the DPW Administrative Building, 115 Andover Street or on the town website, [www.wilmingtonma.gov](http://www.wilmingtonma.gov).
5. Payment for all graves shall be made at the time of purchase and a deed will then be issued to the owner.
6. Grave charges and opening charges must be paid before any interment.
7. When a resident is applying for Medicaid and is required to spend down his/her assets, pre-payment for their grave opening charges will be accepted and this payment will be non-refundable.

### **Resale of Graves**

1. Graves may only be resold to the Town of Wilmington. The amount refunded will be the original purchase price.

### **Perpetual Care**

1. All lots are sold with Perpetual Care. The amount designated perpetual care is deposited into a perpetual care fund and is administered by the Town Treasurer and the Department of Public Works.
2. The term "Perpetual Care" means the regular mowing and trimming of the lots during the growing season. In no case shall this mean the maintenance, repair or replacement of any gravestones, monumental structures or memorials of any kind or the reconstruction of any damaged gravestones, monuments or memorials. It does not include maintenance of grave decorations of any kind.

### **Interment Requirements**

1. Lots in the cemetery shall not be used for any other purpose than a place of burial for the human dead. All burials shall be under the personal charge of the Public Works Director or designee.
2. The Public Works Director must be notified at least 24 hours before a burial is to take place. The location of the grave must be designated when notice of interment is given.
3. No interment shall be made until the Public Works Director has been furnished with a permit, as required by the Laws of the Commonwealth, together with an order of interment signed by the owner or legal representative of the lot in which interment is to be made, and all fees have been paid.
4. There will be no Sunday or holiday burials unless a contagious disease or due to a hardship, without the approval of the Public Works Director.
5. Graves or tombs may be opened for interment by cemetery employees only.
6. An extra charge for interment may be made during the winter months at the discretion of the Public Works Director.
7. A minimum requirement for interment shall be an outer cement container for the casket except in the case of cremains or stillborn.
8. Removal of bodies shall be done according to Massachusetts law.
9. Each gravesite may be used for a maximum of six (6) urns containing ashes.
10. A maximum of four (4) urns may be inserted with a normal casket burial.
11. All urns or other receptacles used for permanent interment must be of a durable and lasting material approved by the Public Works Director or his designee.

12. Section O is for the burial of cremains only in suitable urns or approved containers, 6 urns per each grave (12 urns per 2-grave lot in Section O).

### **Monuments, Foundations & Markers**

1. Accounts must be paid in full prior to accepting orders for foundations and flush marker installation.
2. Lots in the cemetery will be restricted to one stone, the location to be aligned by the Public Works Director.
3. No monument or headstone will be allowed to be set on the day before Memorial Day, and no foundation order will be acknowledged between the fifteenth of May and the first of June.
4. No monument or headstone may be set on a single grave lot. Monuments are allowed on 2-grave lots in Section N, O, and Q. All other 2-grave lots are allowed flush markers only. Flush markers must have dimensions not to exceed 24" in length by 14" wide on a single grave and 56" in length by 16" wide on 2-grave lots.
5. All foundations for stones and monuments in the cemetery shall be constructed by the Department of Public Works, and no monument may be erected or stone set until the cost of the construction has been paid. The maximum base length for a 2-grave lot is 3'0" x 1'2" (Section N, O, and Q only), the maximum base length for a 3-grave lot is 3'0" x 1'2", the maximum base length for a 4-grave lot is 4'6" x 1'4", and maximum base length for a 6-grave lot is 5'0" x 1'4". The height limit for a 2-grave and 3-grave lot monument is 3' and for a 4 and 6 grave lot monument is 5'.
6. If any monument of effigy, or any structure or inscription be placed upon any lot which shall be deemed by the Board of Cemetery Commissioners to be offensive or improper, the Board of Cemetery Commissioners will have the right and it shall be its duty to remove the offensive objects.

### **Decorations of Lots and Graves**

In order to preserve the aesthetic quality and uniformity of Wilmington's cemetery, and to ensure the safety of the public and cemetery staff, the following rules shall apply:

1. Flowers may be brought onto the grounds for decorative purposes, but glass containers are not allowed. Flowers and wreaths left on graves will be removed as soon as they fade or become unsightly.
2. Flowers and decorations must not exceed the width of the lot, the height of the headstone, and no more than one foot (12 inches) forward of the headstone. Any decorations outside of these limits will be removed. Any decorations or objects that create a safety concern for the public and cemetery staff will be removed by staff when encountered.
3. The Town of Wilmington will not be responsible for damage or theft of any flowers, decorations, holders, statues, receptacles or any type of memorializing item that is left at a grave. The Cemetery Commission suggests not placing items of any actual or personal worth at the graves.

4. Cemetery employees will remove all Christmas decorations, not removed by the family, starting April 15.
5. No planting of any kind is allowed in the Wildwood Cemetery. No digging, mulch, decorative stone, marble chips, gravel, sod, fencing or borders are allowed in the cemetery at any location.
6. Funeral flowers and decorations will be allowed for 14 days following any interment and for 7 days before and after a federal or religious holiday.
7. The Commission has the right to have removed any shrub, hedge, root or branch that they may deem detrimental to other cemetery lots or public safety.
8. Nothing is permanently allowed on top of or attached to the top of any monument.
9. Decorations located in the Veterans Section and single graves are limited to one shatter-resistant container with a maximum diameter of 8 inches or one floral basket not to exceed a width of 12 inches per grave.
10. Flags and flag holders honoring Veterans may remain year-round. Flags will be placed adjacent to horizontal monuments.
11. No Shepherd hooks will be allowed on any lot or grave.

### **General Information**

Each lot in Wildwood Cemetery shall be marked by suitable markers to be placed by the Cemetery Division; the number of the lots to be legibly and permanently marked on the premises. No monument, structure or inscriptions shall be allowed without the approval of the Public Works Director. No fence, hedge, or other enclosure will be allowed. Wooden enclosures and wooden markers designating graves will not be allowed.

Funerals will enter the cemetery solely from the last entrance on Wildwood Street.

No work shall be performed in this cemetery except by the Cemetery employees or approved contractors under the direction of the Public Works Director.

No person shall gather any flowers, either wild or cultivated, on the premises. No person shall remove, cut, break or mark any tree, shrub or plant; no person shall mark upon, deface or injure any monument or any other structure on the grounds.

No dogs are allowed in the cemetery.

All persons should be respectful of graves and markers.

The Public Works Director should be notified promptly of the legal representatives appointed after decease of lot owners.

No alcoholic beverages are allowed.

No one is allowed on cemetery grounds before dawn or after dusk.

No firearms are allowed in the cemetery, except for military and memorial services, and only with the approval of the Public Works Director.

No recreational activities are allowed in the cemetery or any activity not associated with normal cemetery use.

### **Veterans Section**

1. Only eligible veterans may be buried in the Veterans section. Spouses or any other family members who are not veterans will not be allowed to be buried in the Veterans section.
2. There is no charge for the grave or opening for veterans buried in the Veterans section.
3. A copy of the veteran's discharge paperwork (DD214) must be submitted to the DPW Administrative Office (115 Andover Street) prior to scheduling the burial.
4. Eligibility is based on Military Service and Residency as follows:
  - a. Veteran was discharged or released from active duty service (other than for training) under honorable conditions, \* or
  - b. Veteran served at least 20 years in the National Guard or United States Reserves and is in receipt of a military pension or has documentation verifying he/she will receive retirement pay at age 60, in accordance with Title 10, Chapter 1223, or
  - c. Any member of the Armed Forces of the United States who died on active duty.

\*With certain exceptions, service beginning after September 7, 1980 as an enlisted person, and service after October 16, 1981 as an officer, must be for a minimum of 24 months OR the full period for which the veteran was called to active duty. (Examples include those serving less than 24 months in the Gulf War or Reservists that were federalized by Presidential Act.)

5. The deceased veteran must have been a resident or former resident of Wilmington. If the deceased veteran was a former resident, he/she must have been a resident of Wilmington for at least 20 years or ½ of his/her life.
6. **Eligibility must be confirmed by the Town of Wilmington Veterans Agent before a burial is scheduled.**

### **Decorations in Veterans Section**

1. Decorations in the Veterans section are limited to one shatter-resistant container with a maximum diameter of 8 inches or one floral basket not to exceed a width of 12 inches per grave.

2. Funeral flowers and decorations beyond the above will be allowed for 14 days following an interment and for one week before and after a federal or religious holiday.
3. Flags and flag holders honoring Veterans may remain year-round.
4. No Shepherd hooks will be allowed on any lot or grave.

## *Columbarium*

### **Eligibility Requirements for Niche Purchase**

1. The PURCHASER of a niche must be a Wilmington resident or former resident as defined, and you may pre-buy a columbarium niche without having a death in the family.
2. If the PURCHASER is a former resident, they must have been a resident of Wilmington for at least twenty years or ½ of their life.
3. The definition of a nonresident is anyone not presently residing in town who does not meet the conditions of #2. Any resident who has been confined to a hospital, continued care unit, or nursing home out of town will still be considered a resident.
4. Prebuys will be limited to 2 niches per family.

### **Ownership, Fees & Payments**

1. The owners of niches, or their legal representatives, shall not grant or convey any right of inurnment to anyone without having first obtained the approval of the Town, but it shall be optional with the Town to grant or withhold such approval.
2. Upon the death of the owner of a niche, title shall pass in accordance with Massachusetts law. Heirs of the deceased owner may designate among themselves a representative for the niche.
3. The current prices for niches and services are available from the DPW Administrative Office located at the DPW Administrative Building, 115 Andover Street or on the town website, [www.wilmingtonma.gov](http://www.wilmingtonma.gov).
4. Payment for the niche shall be made at the time of purchase and Right of Inurnment Permit will then be issued to the owner. The niche and opening charges must be paid before inurnment.
5. Unused Niches may only be resold to the Town of Wilmington. The amount refunded will be the original purchase price.

### **Decorations**

No decorations or items of any kind will be allowed to be placed or attached to the surface of the niche or surrounding areas of the columbarium. Flowers from the funeral

may be placed at the time of the funeral only and will be removed 72 hours after the funeral.

### **Inurnment Requirements**

1. Only human cremated remains will be allowed. All inurnments shall be under the personal charge of the Public Works Director or designee.
2. The Public Works Director must be notified at least 24 hours before an inurnment is to take place.
3. No inurnment shall be made until the Public Works Director has been furnished with a permit (cremation certificate), as required by the Laws of the Commonwealth, together with an Order of Inurnment signed by the owner or legal representative of the niche in which inurnment is to be made, and all fees have been paid.
4. There will be no Sunday or holiday inurnments without the approval of the Public Works Director.
5. Niches may be opened by cemetery employees only.
6. The container for cremated remains shall be of material approved by the Public Works Director (NO CARDBOARD BOXES). **The niche interior measures 12" x 12" x 12".**
7. Removal of cremated remains shall be done according to Massachusetts law.
8. Each niche will accommodate up to 2 urns. **It is the family's responsibility to ensure that one or two urns will fit into the niche.**

### **Engraving**

1. Engraved lettering will be centered and uniform. Lettering will only include the person's first name, middle initial, last name, date of birth and date of death.
2. Each faceplate can accommodate two names with dates of birth and death underneath for a total of 4 lines.
3. No additional engravings or adornments will be added to the faceplate.
4. The Modified Roman font will be the only font allowed.
5. Letters will be 1 ¼ inch high and the dates will be 1 inch high. No coloring of letters is allowed.
6. Veterans will be allowed to mark the niche face plate with a small medallion offered by the Veteran's marker program. Size allowed will be 2" x 1 ½" x 1/3" and will be affixed to the upper right corner.
7. All names and dates must conform to this policy.

8. The engraver must contact Wildwood Cemetery for written approval before any work is done.
- 9. If a faceplate does not adhere to this policy, it will be removed, replaced and engraved in accordance with this policy, all at the owner's expense.**

REVISED 8/23/22 – PREBUY AUTHORIZED

## *Scattering Garden*

### **Fees & Payments**

1. The current price for the scattering garden is available from the DPW Administrative Office located at the DPW Administrative Building, 115 Andover Street or on the town website, [www.wilmingtonma.gov](http://www.wilmingtonma.gov).
2. Payment must be made before scattering of ashes.

### **Scattering Requirements**

1. Only human cremated remains will be allowed. All scattering shall be under the personal charge of the Public Works Director or designee.
2. A notice of 24 hours is required before a scattering is to take place.
3. No scattering shall be made until the Public Works Director has been furnished with a cremation certificate, as required by the Laws of the Commonwealth, together with a completed application, and all fees have been paid.
4. There will be no scattering of ashes on Sundays or holidays without the approval of the Public Works Director.
5. A Wildwood Cemetery employee must accompany the family at the time of scattering. A shallow hole will be dug for the ashes.
6. The cremains are not recoverable. The actual location of the cremains will not be marked. No burial containers are allowed.
7. No decorations of any kind will be allowed in or about the scattering garden.



**Location/Hours of Operation**

Main Cemetery Office  
DPW Administrative Offices  
115 Andover Street  
7:30 AM – 4:00 PM  
978-658-3901 (office phone)  
Monday through Friday excluding holidays and town office closures

October 14, 1998  
Section 1 Revised April 8, 1999  
Revised May 24, 2005  
Revised October 12, 2007  
Revised July 8, 2009  
Revised May 19, 2016  
Revised June 16, 2016  
Revised May 22, 2018  
Revised August 26, 2020  
Revised August 23, 2022  
Revised January 4, 2024

# WILDWOOD CEMETERY WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

## SCHEDULE OF CHARGES

### **Sale of Lots:**

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Four (4) Grave Lot with Headstone Privilege                           | \$4,500.00 |
| Three (3) Grave Lot with Headstone Privilege                          | \$3,400.00 |
| Two (2) Grave Lot with Headstone Privilege                            | \$2,100.00 |
| Two (2) Grave Lot with Flat Marker Privilege                          | \$1,700.00 |
| Two (2) Grave Cremation ONLY with Headstone Privilege<br>in Section O | \$1,500.00 |
| One (1) Grave Lot with Flat Marker Privilege                          | \$ 800.00  |
| Infant Grave  | \$ 100.00  |
| Columbarium Niche Row 1 (Bottom Row)                                  | \$ 600.00  |
| Row 2   | \$ 800.00  |
| Row 3   | \$1,000.00 |
| Row 4 (Top Row)   | \$1,200.00 |

### **Opening Charges:**

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Interment - Resident                       | \$ 800.00  |
| Interment - Non Resident                   | \$1,200.00 |
| Cremation Interment - Resident             | \$ 200.00  |
| Cremation Interment - Non Resident         | \$ 400.00  |
| Columbarium Niche                          | \$ 150.00  |
| Infant Interment                           | \$ 100.00  |
| Saturday Charge - Full Burial              | \$ 600.00  |
| Saturday Charge - Cremation                | \$ 350.00  |
| Scattering Garden Charge                   | \$ 25.00   |
| Disinterment (Full Burial)                 | \$ 800.00  |
| Transfer within the Cemetery (Full Burial) | \$1,500.00 |
| Disinterment (Cremation)                   | \$ 200.00  |
| Transfer within the Cemetery (Cremation)   | \$ 300.00  |
| Foundation Charge                          | \$ 250.00  |
| Deed                                       | \$ 5.00    |
| Recording of Deed                          | \$ 10.00   |
| Copy of Deed                               | \$ 3.00    |
| Affidavit                                  | \$ 3.00    |

Rates Effective 01/04/2024