

Beechwood Cemetery By-Laws Quick Reference Guide

IN BEECHWOOD CEMETERY

HERE THE DEAD SLEEP-THE QUIET DEAD. NO SOUND
DISTURBS THEM EVER, AND NO STORM DISMAYS,
WINTER MID SNOW CARESSES THE TIRED GROUND,
AND THE WIND ROARS ABOUT THE WOODLAND WAYS,
SPRINGTIME AND SUMMER AND RED AUTUMN PASS,
WITH LEAF AND BLOOM AND PIPE OF WIND AND BIRD,
AND THE OLD EARTH PUTS FORTH HER TENDER GRASS,
BY THEM UNFELT, UNHEEDED AND UNHEARD.
OUR CENTURIES TO THEM ARE BUT AS STROKES
IN THE DIM GAMUT OF SOME FAR-OFF CHIME,
UNALTERING REST THEIR PERFECT BEING CLOAKS
A THING TOO VAST TO HEAR OR FEEL OR SEE
CHILDREN OF SILENCE AND ETERNITY,
THEY KNOW NO SEASON BUT THE END OF TIME.

ARCHIBALD LAMPMAN

COMPOSED - AUGUST 17, 1894

Established in 1873, Beechwood is recognized as one of the most beautiful and historic cemeteries in Canada; designated as a National Historic Site.

It is the final resting place for over 85,000 Canadians. Beechwood is proud to be the home of the National Military Cemetery, the RCMP National Memorial Cemetery and the Ottawa Police Service Memorial Cemetery. Beechwood has served all cultures and faiths with care and compassion and is proud to have sections designed to meet the interment needs of the Chinese, Egyptian, Greek, Lebanese, Latvian, Muslim, Polish, Portuguese, Ukrainian and Vietnamese communities.

BEECHWOOD'S MISSION STATEMENT:

“Beechwood, operating on a not-for-profit basis, will be governed efficiently and effectively in the spirit of public service for our community and our nation. Beechwood will ensure that, both at time of need and in perpetuity, it will be operated and maintained in the highest order in memory, honour and respect of those who have left this world before us.”



BUSINESS HOURS

The Cemetery is open for visitors every day of the year from sunrise to sunset.

- The Cemetery Office and Reception Niches are open Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Beechwood is closed on Sunday.
- The Community Mausoleum and Indoor Columbarium may be visited every day of the year from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Interments are carried out between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. from Monday to Saturday.
- Please note that Beechwood is closed on statutory holidays and on December 25th and January 1st.

Understanding the Care of Lots

1. General Care of Interment Rights. Income from the Care and Maintenance portion of the interment right purchase is trusted in a fund and used to maintain, secure and preserve the cemetery grounds.

To the extent that income from the Care and Maintenance Fund permits, the cemetery will stabilize, and secure markers and monuments within the cemetery.

2. Extra Work. The planting or trimming of trees and shrubs on individual lot, or graves, preparation of flower beds, cleaning of memorials, removal of plant material, and other special services are deemed to be additional and outside of those services covered by the Care and Maintenance Fund, for which a reasonable charge is made. Complete information and estimates may be obtained from the cemetery office.

3. Trees, Shrubs and Flowers. In certain specified areas of the cemetery, plantings are not permitted. Within permitted areas, trees, shrubs, flowers or other plants may be cultivated on lots, only when permission is received from the cemetery, and only such varieties as are in good taste and in keeping with the general plan of the grounds.

However, if any trees or shrubs or other plantings on any lot shall have, in the opinion of the cemetery, become by any means detrimental to the general appearance or operation of the grounds or inconvenient to the public, the cemetery may remove such trees or shrubs or plantings, or parts thereof with no compensation or replacement.

The cemetery may remove at its sole discretion, any such article and dispose of it without notification

4. Removal of Plant Material for Interments. Interment rights holder(s) understand that plant material may have to be removed to facilitate an interment within a lot, or grave. The cemetery will make reasonable efforts to preserve and reinstall the plant material, but does not assume any responsibility or liability in this regard.

Before undertaking any planting, please contact Beechwood Cemetery for information on approved trees, shrubs or flowers for your specific section and lot.



5. Size of Flower Beds. Where permitted in the cemetery, flower beds may be installed with the following conditions:

- a. **Monuments:** Flower beds shall not exceed 45.72 cm (18 in) from the base of the monument and not exceed by more than 15.24 cm (6 in) on each side of the base of the monument.

Approved Flower Bed Examples



- b. **Markers:** Flower beds must be planted above the marker and shall not exceed 45.72 cm (18 in) above and not exceed the width of the marker by more than 15.24 cm (6 in) on each side.

Approved Flower Bed Examples



6. Borders. In order to facilitate cemetery operations and for the safety of cemetery employees, only black plastic PVC edging not exceeding 10.16 cm (4 in) in height above the ground level is permitted and can be installed to define the perimeter of the approved planting area.

Approved Border Examples



7. Designated No Planting Areas. The cemetery reserves the right to have dedicated no planting areas within the cemetery.

The dedicated no planting areas include the National Military Cemetery (Section 103, 27, 29 and 19), Section 52, Section 54 and Section 64.



8. Grading of Lots or Graves and Cutting Sod. Only the cemetery, or contractors authorized by the cemetery, may cut or remove sod or soil or change the grading of a lot or grave or any surrounding area.

9. Work on Lots or Graves. No person shall do any work upon a lot or grave without the permission of the cemetery.

Understating what articles can be placed on lots.

1. Right to Regulate Articles. The cemetery reserves the right to regulate the articles placed on lots or graves that pose a threat to the safety of all visitors to the cemetery and cemetery employees, and that prevent the cemetery from performing general operations, or are not in keeping with the dignity and decorum of the cemetery. Articles deemed inappropriate will be removed and disposed of without notification. To assist interment rights holders, the following is a sample of articles that are prohibited from being placed on lots or graves within the cemetery:

- a. Articles made of hazardous materials such as non-heat resistant glass (excludes glass attached to monuments), ceramics or corrosive metals;
- b. Loose stones or sharp objects;
- c. Trellises or arches;
- d. Chairs.

Please contact info@beechwoodottawa.ca or call 613-741-9530 for clarification prior to purchasing or placing any article on an interment right.

2. Candles, Incense or Flammable Articles. Lighted candles, incense, or other flammable articles may be placed on a lot or grave only when attended by an adult. All flammable articles must be extinguished prior to leaving the lot or grave.

Please avoid breakable products such as glass or ceramics.

Any damage caused by candles, incense or flammable articles is the direct and total responsibility of the interment rights holder(s). The cemetery does not assume any liability in this regard. The cemetery may remove at its sole discretion, any such article and dispose of it without notification.

3. Borders, Fences, Railings, etc. Borders, fences, curbs, railings, walls, cutstone copings and hedges in or around lots and graves are not permitted.

If found, the cemetery will make reasonable efforts to notify the interment rights holder(s) 90 days prior to their removal.



4. Cut Flowers, Plants and Potted Plants. Cut flowers, plants and potted plants may be placed in the designated planting areas of lots and graves, providing proper cemetery approved containers are used.

Such flowers and plants will be removed and disposed of by the cemetery staff when they become faded or unsightly.

5. Artificial Flowers or Ornaments. Artificial flowers and ornaments are only permitted during the growing season, **May to October**. The cemetery reserves the right to disallow or remove, without notification, quantities of artificial flowers or ornaments considered to be excessive and that diminish the otherwise tidy appearance of the cemetery.

6. Removal of Artificial Flowers or Ornaments. Artificial flowers or ornaments must be removed by November 15th of any year. Past this date, such artificial flowers or ornaments will be removed and disposed of by the cemetery staff without notification.

7. Vases and Flower Stands. Vases and flower stands not properly cared for and not filled with plants shall be removed. Vases and flower stands must be removed before winter, failing to do so, the cemetery will not be responsible for damage.

8. Removal of Memorial Wreaths. Memorial wreaths may be placed in the cemetery after November 1st of any year. In order to preserve the proper appearance of the grounds they must be removed before April 1st of the following year. Wreaths not removed by April 15th will be removed and disposed of by the cemetery staff without notification.



9. Articles Attached to Trees. It is forbidden to attach any article(s) on trees within the cemetery.

10. Responsibility for Articles. Articles placed on lots or graves are the sole responsibility of the interment rights holder(s). The cemetery cannot be held responsible for the loss or damage of any article(s) placed within the cemetery.

Please note that a full copy of the **By-Laws Governing Beechwood Cemetery** can be found at <http://www.beechwoodottawa.ca/en/cemetery/cemetery-rules-and-regulations>.



info@beechwoodottawa.ca - 613-741-9530 - www.beechwoodottawa.ca

Owned by the Beechwood Cemetery Foundation and
operated by The Beechwood Cemetery Company