

# St. Trinity Cemetery

## Floral and Decoration Policy

### Purpose

This Floral and Decoration Policy is intended to balance families' wishes to honor their loved ones with flowers and decorations while ensuring the cemetery grounds remain safe, dignified, and aesthetically pleasing for all visitors.

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### General Guidelines

- All flowers and decorations will be **removed annually between February 1 and February 15**. This schedule may be adjusted due to weather or operational needs.
  - Flowers or decorations that become faded, discolored, damaged, or deteriorated may be removed at any time ***at the discretion of cemetery staff***.
  - Decorations displaced by weather or wildlife will be removed unless their original placement can be clearly identified.
  - The cemetery is not responsible for flowers or decorations that are lost, damaged, or stolen.
  - This policy is reviewed periodically to remain consistent with industry standards and best practices.
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### Funeral Flowers

- Funeral flowers will be removed **5–7 days after interment** to ensure visitor safety and uninterrupted cemetery operations.
  - Families wishing to retain funeral flowers or select individual blooms are encouraged to do so before leaving the cemetery.
  - Due to wildlife activity, loose floral materials scattered around gravesites will be removed.
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### Graves with Headstones, Monuments, or Flat Markers

- Each grave is permitted **one floral arrangement**, either fresh or artificial, placed in a **metal or plastic vase**.
  - Flower saddles for headstones or monuments are permitted. Grips on the saddles must fit securely.
  - Vases must **not** contain sand, gravel, plaster, rocks, or wax.
  - Permanent plants **cannot** be planted or placed in vases.
  - Seasonal wreaths for **Easter and Christmas**, displayed on small wire easels are permitted.
  - Crosses are permitted; however, they may not serve as grave markers.
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## Columbarium Niches

- Only flowers or decorations that fit entirely within the **approved permanent niche vase** are permitted.
  - Acceptable non-floral items include a small flag or a non-breakable object that can be reasonably contained within the vase.
  - Vases must **not** contain sand, gravel, or other loose materials.
  - No items may be placed on top of the columbarium or on the ground in front of niches.
  - Hooks, adhesive mounts, or semi-permanent fixtures are not permitted, as they cause permanent damage to granite surfaces.
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## Prohibited Items

For safety, maintenance, and appearance, the following items are **not permitted** at grave spaces or columbarium niches:

- Live trees, shrubs, landscaping, or potted plants
  - Grave mats or blankets, fencing, arches, or structural enclosures
  - Glass, ceramic, or other breakable containers
  - Candles, solar lights, shepherd hooks, or metal stakes
  - Wind chimes, pinwheels, balloons, birdhouses, toys, figurines, trinkets, or loose coins
  - Stuffed animals, clothing, paper, cardboard, or other moisture-absorbing items
  - Food, beverages, battery-operated, or flammable objects
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## Visitor Responsibilities and Enforcement

- Visitors are asked to respect other families by adhering to this policy.
  - Cemetery staff, supported by the Board of Directors, reserves the right to remove and dispose of any item that does not comply with cemetery rules and this Floral and Decoration Policy.
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***A sincere thank you to all for supporting the efforts of the Staff and Board of Directors in maintaining the beautiful grounds of St. Trinity Cemetery.***