

**NEEDLES RIVERVIEW CEMETERY**  
**1101 EAST BROADWAY**  
**NEEDLES, CALIFORNIA 92363**

**RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. Burial rights in cemetery lots may be purchased from an official of Needles Riverview Cemetery at the business office located on the cemetery grounds or at the Needles Administrative Offices, 817 Third Street, Needles. The terms of the sale are cash. Upon such payment in full, a certificate of ownership of burial rights, executed by a cemetery official, shall be issued to the purchaser. The Cemetery does not accept insurance consignments or promissory notes.

For those desiring to lock in burial costs before need, a payment plan is available for pre-need purchases including cemetery lot, opening and closing fee, and marker setting. A written contract will be prepared that requires a minimum down payment of \$100 per lot, a ten percent (10%) administrative fee, and no less than quarterly payments on the balance ending in one year. No burial may occur until the lot and other charges are paid in full. For those interested in this option, please feel free to discuss the particulars of the payment plan with our caring professional staff.

A cemetery lot may be held or reserved for a one-time ninety (90) day period; however, if payment in full is not made within that 90 days or a pre-need contract executed as provided above, the lot shall again become available for sale without any further notice being given to the party requesting the hold. The price of the lot purchase shall be the established fee that is in effect at the time payment is made in full or at the time a pre-need contract is executed, whichever occurs first.

2. No interment may be made, or other services rendered, until all charges for lots and services have been paid.

3. An approved vault, concrete box, or approved receptacle shall be used in each interment.

4. **INTERMENT** in an adult lot will be limited to one burial and two cremations, or three cremations. An available option will be to allow one additional cremation (maximum of three cremations and one burial), however, no more than three grave markers, at least two of which must be flat markers, shall be allowed on an adult lot.

Only a cremation may be interred in a cremation lot.

Only an infant (two years of age or younger) may be interred in an infant's lot.

5. As a condition to performing any **DISINTERMENT** and reinterment or other disposition, the Cemetery requires written authorization signed by the deceased's legally authorized person(s), the order of priority being as specified below, on a form approved by the Cemetery.

Disinterment shall require the physical presence of a California Licensed Funeral Director who shall execute a witness statement of the disinterment at the conclusion thereof. If reinterment in the Needles Riverview Cemetery is not being made, the funeral director shall establish the

transportation, disposition and care of the remains once disinterred. The Cemetery is not responsible for any cost and/or expense of the funeral director, all of which must be paid directly to him/her by the legally authorized person(s) giving written consent for the disinterment, the order of priority being:

- a) The surviving spouse;
- b) All surviving children 18 years of age or older;
- c) The surviving parents;
- d) All surviving brothers or sisters 18 years of age or older.

No disinterment may be made until all charges for services have been paid.

No disinterment will be made on Saturday or on any legal holidays as specified in Section 6 below and shall be accomplished at the convenience of the Cemetery.

The Cemetery shall exercise due care in making disinterments, but shall assume no liability for damage to any body, casket, outer burial receptacle, or urn in making a disinterment in accordance with the written request of the legally authorized person(s). When a disinterment is to be made from one grave to another grave within the Cemetery and an outer burial container was not used for the original interment, an outer burial container meeting the Cemetery's specifications must be furnished by the plot owner, next-of-kin or legally authorized person(s) for the new interment. The plot owner, next-of-kin or legally authorized person(s) must furnish a new outer burial container prior to reinterment if the Cemetery determines the structural integrity of the existing outer burial container has been compromised.

6. Interments shall be made between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Saturday and after hours interments may be scheduled and made upon the payment of a surcharge fixed by the Needles City Council. No interments will be made on the following legal holidays: New Year's Day; Washington's Birthday (observed); Good Friday; Easter Sunday; Memorial Day; Independence Day; Labor Day; Columbus Day; Veteran's Day; Thanksgiving Day; Christmas Day; or any other day that the President of the United States declares as a legal holiday.

7. A Needles Riverview Cemetery Interment Order must be signed by the deceased's next-of-kin and returned to a cemetery official at least one full business day preceding interment.

8. No opening or closing of a grave, or the placement of any marker, flower, container, plant, tree, ornament, or device may be made by anyone except employees of the cemetery.

9. No marker, plant, tree, ornament, or device shall be permitted on cemetery lots, except approved headstones, approved flower containers placed flush with the surface of the ground, or memoriam items as discussed in Section 20 below.

10. No lot, or any part thereof, shall be transferred without the consent of a cemetery official and payment of the required fee.

11. Upon arriving on the cemetery grounds, all funerals shall be under the charge of the Superintendent or his/her designee.

12. Once the casket containing the body is within the confines of the cemetery, the Superintendent or his/her designee reserves the right to refuse permission to anyone to open the casket or touch the body without the consent of the legal representative of the deceased or without a court order.

13. The Superintendent or his/her designee reserves the right to have the cemetery vacated while closing the grave at the conclusion of a funeral or during any disinterment.

14. All interments and disinterments within the Cemetery shall be performed only by authorized Cemetery personnel.

15. The Needles Riverview Cemetery is an endowment care cemetery meaning that the purchasers paid for the perpetual care of the gravesites. The endowment care fund will eventually encompass the mowing, watering, and fertilizing of the grounds.

16. Marker maintenance and/or replacement are the responsibility of the purchaser and their heirs.

17. The following rules apply to **GRAVE MARKERS** placed on cemetery lots within the Needles Riverview Cemetery:

- A. Only granite, marble, or bronze markers that are flat with square edges will be accepted.
- B. Lettering, emblems, border, or other designs on the markers shall be no higher than one-eighth inch (1/8") above the surface of the marker.
- C. All markers must be set in concrete with a three-inch (3") border around all four sides.
- D. Single grave markers shall be no larger than twenty four by twelve by three inches (24" x 12" x 3").
- E. Double or multiple grave markers shall be no larger than forty eight by fourteen by three inches (48" x 14" x 3").
- F. In designated Infant and Cremains Only sections, grave markers shall be no larger than twenty by ten by three inches (20" x 10" x 3").

18. **UPRIGHT GRAVE MARKERS** will be allowed in the Needles Riverview Cemetery subject to the following:

- A. Only granite, marble, or bronze markers will be accepted.
- B. Single grave markers shall be no larger than twenty four by twelve by six inches (24" x 12" x 6").
- C. Double or multiple grave markers shall be no larger than forty eight by fourteen by six inches (48" x 14" x 6").
- D. In designated Infant and Cremains Only sections, grave markers shall be no larger than twenty by ten by three inches (20" x 10" x 3").
- E. Maximum height shall not exceed three feet (3').
- F. Markers shall be set in concrete with a three-inch (3") concrete mowing strip/border around all four sides.
- G. The Needles Riverview Cemetery retains the right to require that the marker be set by a licensed, bonded and insured contractor, under the supervision of the Superintendent or his/her designee, should setting be beyond the Cemetery's ability.

to do so itself. The purchaser of the marker shall be responsible for payment to the contractor, in addition to the Cemetery personnel's time for overseeing the setting.

19. **MEMORIAL ("IN MEMORIAM") MARKERS**, whereby the deceased is not interred within the cemetery, will be allowed subject to the following:

- A. Requires approval of both the lot owner and next of kin of the deceased prior to placement.
- B. Memorial markers shall so specify on their face "In Memoriam".
- C. Memorial markers shall be flat and shall be no larger than twenty four by twelve by three inches (24" x 12" x 3").
- D. Memorial markers must be set in concrete with a three-inch (3") border around all four sides.
- E. On a multiple interment adult lot, a memorial marker shall be included in, and not in addition to, the maximum allowable number of grave markers.

20. The following rules apply to placing **FLOWERS, FLAGS OR OTHER MEMORIAM ITEMS** on cemetery lots within Needles Riverview Cemetery:

- A. Flowers, either fresh or artificial, may be placed on lots if they are placed in flower containers that are flush with the surface of the ground and approved by the cemetery, or in vases in the base of markers.
- B. Artificial flowers will be treated the same as fresh flowers, and will be disposed of if faded or deteriorated.
- C. All memoriam items including but not limited to flowers, fresh and artificial, and flags must be removed on Wednesday each week to allow for mowing, trimming, and other maintenance on Thursday. Any and all items placed in memoriam and not removed as provided herein shall be removed and disposed of by the cemetery prior to the lawns being mowed.

During period(s) of grass dormancy, memoriam items may remain on cemetery lots longer than weekly, however, the cemetery retains the right to remove and dispose of any and all such items when they are deemed blighted, damaged or not aesthetically appealing or for mowing and/or maintenance of the cemetery grounds on any Thursday, without notice, as determined by the Superintendent or his designee.

- D. Memoriam items made of glass or other breakable material(s) or which are deemed hazardous or offensive by the cemetery shall not be allowed and will be immediately removed and disposed of.
- E. No person shall place upon any cemetery lot or pour any sand, gravel, rocks, cement, casting plaster, wax, or metal of any type into vases or flower containers because of potential damage to maintenance equipment.
- F. All memoriam items placed within the cemetery are the property of the purchaser and neither the City of Needles, Needles Riverview Cemetery, or their employees are responsible for lost, stolen or misplaced items; maintenance, including but not limited to wear and tear; damage; or any other forms of destruction; and the cemetery retains the right to remove and dispose of all such items, without permission from the purchaser, as it deems warranted for the benefit of the cemetery.

21. The cemetery reserves the right to correct any errors made by it in making interments, disinterments, or removals, or in the description, transfer, or conveyance of interment property.