

# FAIRMOUNT CEMETERY

## WELCOMES YOU!

Fairmount Cemetery was established in 1893 and encompasses over 57 acres. It is a perpetual care cemetery and is designated a Texas Historic Cemetery by the Texas Historic Commission. Fairmount Cemetery is owned and maintained by the City of San Angelo and governed by a Board of Directors which oversees the cemetery's operations and maintenance, along with the cemetery staff employed by the city.

A Master Plan, created by the Cemetery Board and Friends of Fairmount, a non-profit auxiliary group supported by community members, guides the long-term viability of this landmark cemetery with suggested improvements to maintain Fairmount's historical significance and community relevance.

Part of the effort to maintain the cemetery's dignity is the established "Rules and Regulations" contained in this packet so that all patrons of Fairmount Cemetery might understand the importance of preserving the natural beauty of the cemetery as a place to celebrate life and the loved ones we have lost.

We ask that all owners and visitors remember Fairmount Cemetery is sacredly devoted to the burial of our loved ones. An atmosphere of serenity and respect for those interred, along with their surviving family and friends, will be Fairmount's first and foremost priority.



### **Fairmount Cemetery Office**

1120 W. Avenue N  
San Angelo, TX 76901

[www.cosatx.us/departments-services/fairmount-cemetery](http://www.cosatx.us/departments-services/fairmount-cemetery)

Open Monday – Friday

8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

(325) 655-9475

Fax: (325) 653-7774



### **Fairmount Cemetery Grounds**

Open Year-Round

7:30 a.m. - Sunset

### **Friends of Fairmount**

P.O. Box 3522

San Angelo, TX 76902-3522

[www.friendsoffairmount.org](http://www.friendsoffairmount.org)

This packet is your introduction to important information and guidelines regarding Fairmount Cemetery.

*Thank you for your interest in Fairmount Cemetery, San Angelo, Texas.*

(Revised May 25, 2023)

# Fairmount Cemetery

## San Angelo, Texas

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## **DEFINITIONS**

**Owner** – The holder of the Property Title to interment rights in any lot(s) in the cemetery for the sole purpose of burying deceased persons.

**Interment** – The placement or burial of the remains of a deceased person.

**Memorial** – Any marker, monument, or structure upon any lot or niche, for the purpose of identification or in memory of the interred.

**Contractor** – Any person or business entity, other than an employee of the cemetery, engaged in placing, erecting, or engraving any memorial or performing any work on the cemetery grounds.

**Planting** – Any tree, shrub, grass, flower, or other vegetation.

**COSA** – The City of San Angelo

## **PURPOSE OF FAIRMOUNT RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Fairmount's Rules and Regulations serve as protection to the interment right owners and aid in creating and preserving the beauty of the grounds. All owners, visitors, and contractors performing work within the cemetery are subject to these guidelines and any amendments that may be later adopted by the Board of Directors of Fairmount Cemetery and the San Angelo City Council. These guidelines are adopted and enforced, pursuant to the Texas Health & Safety Code, Chapters 711 and 713, as now in effect or hereafter amended.

The Fairmount Cemetery Board has the sole discretion in deciding what is or has become objectionable. The Fairmount Cemetery Board reserves the right to adopt new rules and regulations, as well as amend, alter, and/or repeal any rule, regulation, or paragraph in this document at any time, with or without notice to the lot owners.

*Cemetery Rules and Regulations are posted on Fairmount's website.*

## **SPECIAL CASES**

Some instances may arise in which the literal enforcement of a rule or regulations may impose unnecessary hardship. The cemetery supervisor, with the approval of the Board of Directors, reserves the right, without notice, to make exceptions, suspensions, or modifications to any of the rules or regulation when in their judgement it seems advisable. Temporary exceptions, suspensions, or modifications in no way affect the general application of these rules and regulations.

# **FAIRMOUNT RULES & REGULATIONS - CEMETERY ETTIQUETTE**

## ***FAIRMOUNT CEMETERY....A SERENE FINAL RESTING PLACE***

Our cemetery provides an atmosphere where all can enjoy and respect the aesthetic qualities and quietude of this historic landmark.

Fairmount's Rules and Regulations are intended for all who use the cemetery. They provide information regarding the appearance of our grounds/buildings and the nature of all improvements. Adherence to these guidelines ensure the respectful observance of these hallowed grounds.

### **All Owners & Visitors Are Asked To Refrain From The Following:**

1. Intruding or disrupting a funeral or memorial service. Maintain respect and decorum while in the cemetery at all times.
2. Disturbing the quiet of the cemetery by any unnecessary noise of any kind. This includes, but is not limited to car radios, entertainment systems, bullhorns, sirens, loud voices, profanity, etc.
3. Bringing or discharging a firearm within cemetery grounds except during military funerals and/or during accepted cemetery supervisor and board approved holidays.
4. Loitering within the cemetery. Any person found within the cemetery who fails to give a sufficient reason for his/her presence shall be asked to leave the cemetery.
5. Leaving any child under 16 years of age unsupervised to play or be allowed to stay within the cemetery. Children under 16 years of age must be accompanied by and under the supervision of an adult.
6. Defacing any memorial or marring anything on cemetery grounds.
7. Removing any objects from any place in the cemetery without the consent of the cemetery supervisor and/or removing any flowers/arrangements from the cemetery and placing them on another gravesite without the permission of the owners or cemetery supervisor. Cemetery staff will be responsible for removing any arrangements that do not meet established guidelines.
8. Placing/displaying unacceptable items in the cemetery that mar the general beauty and historic preservation of Fairmount Cemetery. See Guidelines for Arrangements, Memorabilia, & Setups.
9. Hanging any object(s) from any tree, shrub, or plant.
10. Damaging any planting or removing/uprooting any planting from its setting.
11. Excavating cemetery grounds without the consent of the cemetery supervisor.
12. Burying an animal or its cremains within cemetery grounds.
13. Bringing liquor or illegal drugs into the cemetery.
14. Littering or placing trash, cigarette butts, unsightly material, or debris on cemetery grounds.

# **OWNERSHIP, PURCHASE, & SALE OF INTERMENT RIGHTS**

No one shall be prohibited from owning a lot due to race, creed, color, religion, or national origin.

Any owner shall have the right at any time to sell or transfer his/her interest in any lot, if the purchase price has been fully paid. Sales and transfers must be recorded with the cemetery's office prior to the transfer to ensure that the cemetery, at all times, has a complete and accurate record of all owners. No sign is permitted within the cemetery indicating that a lot or niche is "For Sale." This also applies to signs, cards, and advertisements of any kind on the cemetery grounds.

The subdivision of interment rights is not allowed without the consent of the cemetery supervisor. No one shall be buried in any lot unless he/she has a legal interest therein except by written consent of the cemetery and all parties interested in such lot.

Burial in any lot is not permitted until the cost of the lot and the opening and closing fees are paid in full. An exception is made if payment is guaranteed by an approved funeral home.

With approval, stacking of burials is permitted in the cemetery. The price for a stacking lot is the cost of two single lots, with a 10% discount. The bottom interment will be in a concrete box deep enough to allow the top concrete box and burial to meet all State guidelines.

## **FUNERAL SERVICES**

### **Authorization**

When a space is to be used, the owner, family, or representative must sign an Interment Order & Authorization form at the cemetery office. Family plots, containing more than one available space, require a family representative to indicate which space is to be used. This ensures the cemetery opens the correct grave. Any burial space must be paid in full before interment can occur.

### **Scheduling**

Funerals may be scheduled Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday mornings from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Funeral services will not be conducted in Fairmount Cemetery on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

Services can be scheduled on Good Friday, the Friday after Thanksgiving, and the day before (*or possibly after*) Christmas Day, with additional fees and charges. Additional overtime charges will apply after 4:30 p.m. on weekdays and after 12 p.m. on Saturday.

### **24-Hour Notice**

Fairmount Cemetery requires a minimum of 24 hours-notice, with specific burial/location information, in order to prepare the site for the funeral. This is also the case if a selection and purchase of a burial space is required.

### **Monuments & Markers**

A Marker Survey Authorization form must be signed and the Marker Fee paid before any monument or marker can be placed on a burial space. The cemetery strictly regulates this placement and a professional monument company performs the installation. All monument companies must check in with the cemetery office prior to installation. Many areas of the cemetery require particular types of memorials and a map of these specifications is located at the cemetery office. Markers with permanently attached vases are strongly recommended ensuring a flower placement for your loved ones.

### **Outer Burial Containers**

A Concrete Box or Concrete Vault is the minimum requirement for burial; both are available for purchase from the cemetery. Other outer burial containers, such as Steel Vaults or Wilbert Vaults may be used, however a container setting fee will be charged. This charge is made due to maintenance costs related to sunken graves.

*Cemetery employees under their supervisor's direction, will open & close graves and perform all other tasks on the lots except when permission is granted otherwise.*

## **COMPLETE SUPERVISION**

The cemetery retains to itself, for the benefit of all owners, full and complete supervision, control, and management of the land, buildings, improvements, roads, walks, utilities, development, books, and records with the full and complete authority, right, and privilege to make, change, administer, and enforce all rules, regulations, and restrictions consistent with the laws of this state wherein this cemetery is located.

## **LOSS OR DAMAGE**

The cemetery takes reasonable precautions to protect owners and their interment rights within the cemetery from loss or damage. The cemetery is not responsible for any loss or damage caused by the elements, an act of God, common enemy, thieves, vandals, strikers, malicious mischief makers, explosions, unavoidable accidents, invasion, insurrections, riots, or any order given by military or civil authority whether the loss or damage be direct or collateral.

## **VEHICLES**

Whether driving an automobile or riding a bicycle, skateboard, scooter, etc., you are asked to remember the quiet and sacred nature of the cemetery.

- Please drive or ride only on the streets and avoid driving on lots, lawns, pathways, and walks.
- Avoid U-turns and follow the flow of traffic.
- Automobile speed shall not exceed the posted limit of 15 mph.
- Park your car(s) so as not to obstruct traffic.
- Please silence stereos, radios, and other noise-producing items.
- Avoid using the grounds as a public thoroughfare.

## **PETS**

Please be mindful that others utilize the cemetery for funerals, educational programs, community events, and individual enjoyment. We want to keep our cemetery clean and tidy for all our visitors, including our pets.

- All pets must be kept under control and on a leash while on cemetery grounds.
- Dogs are allowed only on our streets.
- Carry waste disposal material if you choose to walk your pet and enjoy the park-like setting.
- Take all disposal material when you leave the cemetery as COSA does not provide receptacles.

# **GUIDELINES FOR ARRANGEMENTS, MEMORIALS, & SETUPS**

## ***IMPORTANT REMINDERS:***

- *ITEMS MAY NOT BE PLACED ON THE GROUND, AROUND THE MARKER DUE TO GROUNDS MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES.*
- *ALL ITEMS MUST BE PLACED ON OR AFFIXED TO THE MONUMENT OR ITS BASE.*
- *ANY ITEM THAT FALLS OFF OF THE MONUMENT WILL BE TAKEN UP WITHOUT NOTICE BY CEMETERY STAFF.*
- *FADED, DRIED UP, WILTED, TORN, OR SCATTERED ITEMS WILL BE TAKEN UP WITHOUT NOTICE BY CEMETERY STAFF.*
- *PROHIBITED ITEMS WILL BE TAKEN UP WITHOUT NOTICE BY CEMETERY STAFF.*
- *FAIRMOUNT CEMETERY ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY IF ITEMS BECOME BROKEN, DAMAGED, OR STOLEN.*

## **1. Flowers**

- A. Fresh, Silk, Plastic, and Synthetic Flowers are allowed.
- B. Metal, Glass, and Paper Flowers are NOT allowed.
- C. Full flower length must not exceed 16 inches.

## **2. Flower Containers**

- A. Unbreakable Metal/Stone Vases, Urns, or Cradles are allowed and strongly encouraged.
- B. Vases & Urns must be permanently attached to the marker.
- C. Cradles must fit securely.

## **3. Funeral Floral Arrangements**

- A. Will be removed from graves and niches when they lose their color and form, becoming wilted.
- B. Patrons desiring to retain any funeral designs or floral arrangements must remove the same within 10 Days of the interment.
- C. Fairmount Cemetery is not responsible or held liable for floral pieces, containers, baskets, or items in which or to which floral arrangements are held or attached beyond acceptance of such floral arrangements for funeral services held at the cemetery.

## **4. Seasonal Decorations**

- A. Seasonal Décor must meet the rules & guidelines stated in this packet.
- B. Fresh, Silk, Plastic, and Synthetic Seasonal Decorations can be placed 10 Days prior to most holidays; there is an exception for Christmas.
- C. Christmas Decorations can be set up 3 Weeks prior to Christmas Day.
- D. Artificial/Real Christmas Trees, you would set up in your home, are NOT allowed.
- E. Seasonal Décor must be picked up 14 Days after the holiday. Any items not removed will be picked up by cemetery staff and disposed of.

## **5. Tree/Bush Waiver**

- A. Live Planting, to the side of the monument, are allowed with the approval of the cemetery supervisor and a Signed Tree/Bush Planting Waiver.
- B. A Landscape & Tree Donation Program is available, see our Plantings section.

## 6. Benches & Statues

- A. Benches must be approved and arranged through the cemetery office.
- B. Non-breakable Statues and Figurines must be permanently affixed to the monument.
- C. Benches must be constructed of material which will withstand the elements and not come into disrepair over time. Examples include Concrete, Marble, or Granite.
- D. Broken benches will be removed.
- E. Wooden, Plaster, or Metal Benches or Settees are NOT allowed.
- F. Benches currently in the cemetery will be evaluated and re/moved if they are determined to interfere with maintenance. Those cemented to the ground will be allowed to remain.
- G. Fairmount Cemetery reserves the right to refuse permission to place benches if it determines that a bench or its placement does not conform to the requirement or is in a position that will impede maintenance.

## 7. Temporary Setups

- A. New Interment Flower/Memorial Setups are temporarily allowed until a permanent marker is set.
- B. In-Ground Vases (metal/plastic) are temporarily allowed, as they will be removed for maintenance.

## 8. Marker Specification

- A. All Markers must be made in the United States.
- B. Markers may be no more than 36 inches wide at the base.
- C. There are designated areas for Upright and Flat Markers; see office for details.
- D. Cemetery Ledgers (Grave Covers) are NOT allowed.

## 9. Interment Ground & Boundaries

- A. The cemetery reserves for itself, owners, and their invitees a perpetual right of ingress & egress over lots for the purpose of passage to and from other spaces.
- B. The right to enlarge, reduce, re-plat, or change the boundaries is expressly reserved for the cemetery.
- C. Grave Mounds are NOT allowed & no lot shall be raised above the established grade.
- D. The cemetery reserves the right to lay, maintain, operate, or change pipelines or gutters.

## 10. Prohibited Items

- A. Food, Drinks, Cans, Bottles, or Packages of any kind;
- B. Fencing or Borders of Brick, Stone, Wood, Metal, Plastic, etc.;
- C. Stepping Stones of any material;
- D. Garden Decorations including, but not limited to Flags, Pinwheels, Wind Chimes, Ornamental Balls, Animal Feeders, Shepherd's Hooks, Hanging Plants, etc.;
- E. Crosses, Candles, Photos, Pictures, or Cards;
- F. Blankets or Clothing;
- G. Solar Lights;
- H. Banners, Balloons, Streamers, and Ribbon;
- I. Artificial Turf, Ground Cover, Mulch, Lava Rocks, Pond Pebbles;
- J. Items of Metal, Glass, Ceramic, or Clay;
- K. Homemade Markers.

*“When in doubt, call or come by the cemetery office.”*



# **PLANTINGS**

Fairmount Cemetery with the Board of Directors and Friends of Fairmount have made it available to owners and families to beautify our cemetery and honor our loved ones who have gone before us.

## **Landscape & Tree Donation Program**

An approved list of trees and their placement have been recommended for Fairmount Cemetery. They have been chosen specifically by horticulturists and landscape architects to be drought resistant and adapt to San Angelo's climate and frequent times of water shortages. Full-grown plantings are preferred in order to prevent damage to markers, water lines, right of ways, and other lots.

Those wishing to place a tree in the cemetery are encouraged to learn more about the Landscape & Tree Donation Program at [www.friendsoffairmount.org](http://www.friendsoffairmount.org) or make an appointment with the cemetery supervisor at the Fairmount Cemetery office.

## **Fairmount Tree/Bush Waiver**

Specific trees and bushes may be planted next to your loved ones within the cemetery once a waiver has been filled out and the cemetery supervisor has approved the planting and its location. A list of plantings can be found in the cemetery office and with scheduling, local nurseries or Fairmount staff will see to the planting.

## **Upkeep**

Once planted, all trees and bushes become property of Fairmount Cemetery. The grounds staff will water and care for all new trees and bushes, as they are able while adhering to any civic or cemetery water conservation restrictions. Lot owners may bring their own supply of water and hoses to the cemetery to water individual plantings. Only cemetery grounds staff may use cemetery water sources (faucets, hoses, and sprinklers).

If, for any reason, planting on any lot or elsewhere in the cemetery dies, is damaged, or is detrimental to adjacent lots or avenues, the cemetery supervisor has the sole authority to remove all or any part of the planting or to otherwise correct the condition. Fairmount Cemetery is not responsible for any planting that does not survive for any reason.

All grading, landscaping, and improving lots including but not limited to planting, trimming, plucking, cutting, or removing any planting, whether wild or cultivated, shall be completed by cemetery grounds staff with the approval of the cemetery supervisor.

The use of grass seed or the application of pesticides and fertilizer to any grass, plants, or trees in the cemetery will be performed by the cemetery supervisor and/or the cemetery grounds staff. Lot owners wishing to have chemicals applied to their lots may contact the cemetery supervisor.

# FAIRMOUNT CEMETERY-WIDE CLEANUP DATES

WINTER – MID JANUARY

SUMMER – MID JULY

*Typically on or around the 15<sup>th</sup>.*

Fairmount Cemetery conducts a cleanup involving the removal of ALL flowers, wreaths, decorations, and any worn or prohibited items. Should the cleanup dates fall on a weekend, the cleanup will take place the following Monday.

Signs announcing our cleanup will be posted, giving a Three Week Timeframe for all owners/families to come by and pick up any items they want salvaged.

Any items, allowed within our rules and guidelines, may be placed back on spaces Two Weeks after the cemetery-wide cleanup.

## **PERPETUAL CARE**

A Perpetual Care Fund has been established in conformity with the laws of the State of Texas. Perpetual care means to keep the grounds and all interment spaces in repair and to care for plantings placed by the cemetery. It does not include the cleaning, polishing, or repairing of markers.

## **CEMETERY OFFICE**

Fairmount Cemetery's office is located at 1120 West Avenue N, San Angelo, TX 76901. This is directly across the street from the main cemetery grounds entrance on West Avenue N.

The office telephone number is 325-655-9475.

The cemetery website is [www.cosatx.us/departments-services/fairmount-cemetery](http://www.cosatx.us/departments-services/fairmount-cemetery)

Normal business hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The office closes on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, President's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, the day after Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and the day before (*or possibly after*) Christmas Day.

## **CEMETERY GROUNDS**

Fairmount Cemetery grounds will be open year-round, unless prevented by extreme weather. Fairmount staff open the gate at 7:30 a.m.; they clear the grounds and lock the gate at sunset.

# *Cemetery Board of Directors*

*(Updated – April 18, 2024)*

*Kam Stribling – President*

*Donna Crisp – Vice President*

*Beverly Stribling – Recording Secretary*

*Tina Bean*

*Amy Deadman*

*Jackie Martin*

*Cora McGowan*

*Susan Mertz*

*Eva Moutos-Choate*

*Bob Rogers*

*Kay Rork*

*Martha Visney*

*Ann West*

*Rebecca White*