

St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery Maintenance Guidelines

St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery, located at 5057 Joseph Road, Onekama, Michigan, is hallowed ground and shares with all sacred places regulations to insure reverence, neatness, safety and order.

To promote the natural beauty of our cemetery, the safety of our visitors and caretakers, to facilitate cleanup, and out of respect for our beloved deceased, the St. Joseph of Onekama Cemetery Board requires all individuals to follow these rules for decorating in our Catholic Cemetery.

- Shepherd hooks for hanging baskets, flags and flag holders for Veterans are the only items allowed to be placed in the ground where grass is cut. They must be placed in line with the monuments. Flags for Veterans are the only flags permitted.
- Urns are allowed in line with monuments and may contain live or artificial arrangements or decorations that are Christian in nature. Artificial arrangements placed in the ground will be removed.
- Memorial Wreaths on stands are only permitted beginning November 15th and must be removed by April 1st.
- Statues must be of a religious type acceptable to the Catholic faith, and are to be placed on the foundation of the monument or on a separate foundation in line with the monument. Statues not of a religious nature and other objects (toys, trinkets, balloons, golf balls, playing cards, wire decorations, glass vases, porcelain figurines, stones, woodchips, etc.) are not allowed without prior approval at the discretion of the St. Joseph Cemetery Board.
- Solar lights are permitted and must be placed in line with the monuments.
- Planting of trees, bushes, flowers, or any other objects placed in the ground are strictly not allowed.
- Decorating of trees is not allowed.
- Refuse (such as plastic, cardboard, metal, glass, ribbons, etc.) is to be removed from the cemetery. Whatever items you bring to the cemetery you must remove when you are finished decorating.
- **DO NOT** throw trash nor spent flowers/plants in the woods, in the cemetery, or leave along the road. No hoses, watering cans nor containers may be left in the cemetery. **NO DUMPING!**
- Trees, shrubs, and bushes that are in the cemetery are property of the cemetery, and may be removed or trimmed at the discretion of the maintenance staff.

Revised: 5/3/2023