

## Harris Township Cemetery Policy

To obtain uniformity and efficiency in maintenance of our Township Cemetery, the following policies and regulations have been approved by the Harris Township Board; to be in effect for the Harris Township Cemetery as of September 26, 2018.

Cemetery Sexton: 218-398-5033, [harristownsexton@gmail.com](mailto:harristownsexton@gmail.com)

Harris Township Cemetery Maintenance: Derrick, 218-244-5247.

1. The Cemetery grounds are open to the public from Dawn to Dusk year round.
2. The Cemetery Sexton is available by phone, text and e-mail, with respectable hours and will respond as promptly as able.
3. All burials and purchases of sites must be arranged with and by the Sexton. No interment may take place without the notification and approval of the Sexton.
4. All purchased sites must be paid by check, payable to the Harris Township.
5. All purchased sites require a Deed that will be drawn up by the Sexton and signed at the monthly Planning and Development Meetings by the Board. Deeds must be recorded with the Itasca County Recorder's Office. The recording fee, currently \$46, is required in addition to the fee for the site purchased at the time of sale; payable to Harris Township.
6. All payments must be made to the Sexton or funeral home. The original Deed will be mailed to the purchaser after being recorded with Itasca County and a copy filed with the Township.
7. Available lots may be viewed on the Harris Township web page by clicking the Cemetery tab on the left sidebar. These will be updated to the website annually, effective January 1, 2019. <https://www.harristownshipmn.org/>
8. A maximum of four (4) sites may be purchased per person, per deed.
9. Deeds CAN NOT be transferred, assigned or pledged to another interest without the consent of the Town Board. (Does not include family placed in family owned sites.)
10. Private sale of burial sites is prohibited.
11. The Sexton maintains the authority to discontinue sale of a particular section, block or lot area to ensure the space for those who have pre-purchased sites is adequate.
12. Section 1 sites are prohibited from full casket burials if the site purchase date was after October 1, 2013.
13. Vaults are required for all traditional full casket burials.
14. All excavating of sites will be performed by the Harris Township Cemetery Maintenance Department, and/or a designated contractor, and adequate notice to prepare is required. A minimum of 4 week days is essential during winter months to prepare the site, and 2-3 week days during summer months. (Not to include the day of the request.) Times may need to be adjusted depending on the frost depth and shall be communicated with the funeral home.

15. Each site purchased/ owned may hold 1 full adult traditional burial complete with a vault and 4 cremation urns above. Full traditional burials should be placed prior to a cremation in the site owned or you will be referred to the disinterment process and fees. Two Infant traditional burials may be placed on the same level to allow 4 cremations above. This is the only adjustment made to the allowance of burials to be placed in each site purchased or owned.
16. If a disinterment is requested of cremation or traditional burials- please refer to a funeral home to facilitate the process. All fees will be the responsibility of the requester and must be paid in advance.
17. One upright Headstone shall be placed per site purchased. These will be marked by the Harris Township Cemetery Maintenance Department, and laid by the company the stone was purchased through. Footstones or additional flat markers may be placed on sites as space allows. No placement of stones is permitted without the Harris Township Cemetery Maintenance Department marking and approving the space for the stones. Loss or damage to stones and markers is not the responsibility of the Township.
18. Foot markers received from the Itasca County Veterans Office will be placed by the Harris Township Cemetery Maintenance Department. Foot markers received by family members requesting to be placed by Maintenance, will be charged the hourly rate for labor performed (by maintenance).
19. There shall be no planting of shrubs or trees on cemetery grounds. Any shrub or tree that is currently on grounds is subject to removal without guarantee of replacement in the event of needing to be removed for burial excavation, maintenance, or death of the shrub or tree; or subject to being planted in violation of the policies placed forward.
20. Flowers and decorations are allowed to be placed on individual sites owned from April 1<sup>st</sup> – October 1<sup>st</sup> annually. No flowers, decorations, stands or holders are the responsibility of Harris Township and may be removed at any time by the Sexton, Board Supervisors or Harris Township Cemetery Maintenance Department if interference with maintenance or encroaching on other sites is violated. All flowers and decorations must be maintained by the placer of the flower and decorations must be tasteful and of pleasant viewing to other occupants of the cemetery. Weeds over taking flowers will result in the removal of the planter. Removal of remaining flowers and decorations after October 1<sup>st</sup> will be made by the Harris Township Cemetery Maintenance Department and these will not be returned to the placer.  
Special ornamentation may take place for a full 7 days after a burial anytime of the year. Special ornamentation from December 1<sup>st</sup> – January 30<sup>th</sup> is also permitted for the Christmas Season.  
Harris Township Cemetery Maintenance Department will remove any ornamentation remaining after this period. Ornamentation will not be returned to the placer.
21. No burials above ground will be permitted and no spreading of ashes will be permitted.

Disclosure:

The Harris Township Board reserved the right to make exceptions, suspensions, or modifications of any of the policies and regulations set forth that may cause undue hardship of a pre-owned site or error of its doing and such shall not affect the policies and regulations of the general application set forth.

Harris Township Cemetery Rates

Rates reflect resident and non-residency

Cemetery Site Purchase Rate: \$175.00      Itasca County Recording Fee: \$46.00

Burials rates are for burial times beginning Monday-Friday between the hours of 9am -3pm.

Regular Burial Rates:

Traditional Casket Adult: \$500.00

Traditional Casket Infant: \$150.00

Cremation: \$125.00

Disinterment: \$1,250.00

Winter Burial Rates:

\$1,500.00

\$1,500.00

\$1,500.00

An additional fee of \$200.00 will be charged for any burial that begins Monday- Friday after 3pm. No burials will be permitted to begin after 5pm.

An additional fee of \$275.00 will be charged for weekend burials and shall only take place only between the hours of 9am and 3pm.

\*A fee of \$1,500.00 will be charged for all Winter Traditional burials, and a fee of \$1,500.00 will be charged for all Winter Cremations. Winter is defined as anytime the ground is frozen and needs to be thawed with the grave heater to open the grave.

No burials will be permitted on New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

If burial is requested and excavation is preformed, and the burial is canceled by no fault of the Township, half of the original fee for that burial will be charged.

## Other Information

Sections 1 and 2 of the Cemetery sites are 8 ft. long x 4 ft. wide.

Section 3 of the Cemetery sites are 10 ft. x 4 ft. wide.

Duplicate Deeds may be purchased from the Itasca County Recorder's Office for a small fee.

Harris Township may purchase a cemetery site back from its owner. The request needs to be made in writing to the Sexton and a copy of the Deed must be included with the request. The Townships recording fee will be subtracted from your purchase price returned and no burials may be in the site location.

Harris Township Cemetery will allow loved ones who choose cremation to be buried together in one urn together. This should be done prior to either being placed in the site or you will be referred to the disinterment process. There is only 1 fee per burial excavation. Both persons in the urn will need to have the correct paperwork filed with the funeral home that will be processed to the Sexton.

We do not allow the burial of pets at Harris Township Cemetery.