



ANTELOPE VALLEY CEMETERY DISTRICT

RULES and REGULATIONS

The Antelope Valley Cemetery District is a public cemetery that was established by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in 1950. It is overseen by a Board of Trustees and General Manager to ensure that the cemetery is properly maintained and adheres to an atmosphere that creates a serene, park-like setting.

The placement of flowers and memorial markers on interment spaces of loved ones is both a time-honored tradition and a beautiful expression of love and remembrance. Due to safety reasons, and to retain uniformity and a park-like setting, certain rules and regulations must be followed.

CEMETERY HOURS AND VISITATIONS

The Antelope Valley Cemetery District/Lancaster Cemetery is open daily sunrise to sunset, 365 days per year. The cemetery District office is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and closed on Saturday and Sunday and on certain holidays. Please contact the District office for holiday schedules.

For families to feel safe and at peace in our beautiful, serene environment, it is requested that all visitors be respectful, quiet and reverent. **Loud noise, loud music and abusive conduct is prohibited.** **The following rules apply to Funeral Service attendees as well as every day visitors.**

1. Any activities such as baseball, soccer, football, skateboarding, frisbee throwing, volleyball, golf, or any other sport ARE NOT PERMITTED. Drone usage must be approved by the General Manager.
2. All children must be supervised by an adult.
3. Running is not allowed on cemetery grounds.
4. Use of barbecues, lit candles or open flames is prohibited.
5. Pets are allowed but must be on a leash. Owners are responsible for cleaning up after their pets.
6. Alcohol consumption, drug use, or being under the influence while on the premises is not permitted. Violators may be subject to citation or arrest under the City of Lancaster Municipal Codes.
7. Irrigation and Recycled Water is not for human consumption. PLEASE do not drink.
8. District personnel will, if deemed necessary, remove or trim trees, shrubs, plants or vines that may be dangerous, detrimental or an obstruction to any site on the cemetery grounds.
9. No person shall damage or deface the cemetery grounds or surrounding walls.
10. Trash must be placed in trash cans with lid replaced after doing so.
11. All combustible materials are not permitted on cemetery grounds.
12. No weapons of any kind are allowed. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the Sheriff being summoned.
13. Any violation will result in dismissal from cemetery grounds.
14. Any large gatherings, funeral parties with more than 75 in attendance, or special events must be pre-approved by the General Manager. Mortuaries/funeral homes must contact the General Manager or staff with number of attendees for every funeral. Attendee limit may vary due to COVID-19/variants.

FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS

1. Flower and decoration removal is once per week during the mowing season, April through November.
2. Glass vases, candle holders or containers are prohibited. Unauthorized containers or items will be removed and kept for one week then discarded by District personnel.
3. Neither the Cemetery District nor its employees shall be held responsible for damaged or stolen flowers/decorations.
4. Holiday flowers, wreaths and decorations are allowed for extended periods. Please see our Holiday Decoration Schedule on our cemetery bulletin board. Failure to remove flowers and decorations by removal date will be discarded. **PLEASE NOTE:** Any items that families wish to keep must be picked up before the date it is scheduled to be removed.
5. No person shall plant any tree, shrub, bush, or flowers on cemetery grounds. Donations for trees are acceptable, but trees will be selected, placed, and planted under the direction of the General Manager.
6. No person shall gather cemetery flowers, nor disturb growing plants, or trespass on any gravesite in which they do not hold the interment rights.

MEMORIAL MARKERS/HEADSTONES

1. All memorial markers and headstones are installed by the Antelope Valley Cemetery District personnel only.
2. All memorial markers and headstones will be the standard size flat markers. Marker sizes vary depending lot size - single; double on a single lot; double across two lots or infant lot. Contact cemetery office for size restrictions and installation pricing.
Bronze memorial markers must be placed in concrete. Pricing is available at the cemetery office.

INTERMENTS

1. Interment rights may be purchased at the Antelope Valley Cemetery District office. Upon payment in full, including payment to the Endowment Care Fund, a Certificate of Interment Rights, executed by the General Manager and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, shall be issued to the purchaser.
2. Families are requested to call the cemetery office in advance to schedule an appointment for arrangements, however, staff will make every effort to coordinate with families who are at need.
3. No interment shall be made without a permit from the proper authorities and until the interment order has been signed by a member of the family of the deceased or an authorized person.
4. No interment shall be made, or other services rendered until all fees are paid in full. All fees for services must be paid (3 business days) prior to interment.
5. Standard vaults, and liners of polymer or concrete must be used for all interments except for cremated remains. The use of a cremated remains vault is required. You may purchase a cremation vault from the District as well as the full body single or double concrete vaults and single polymer vaults or liners.
6. A maximum of three (3) cremated remains containers may be placed in an in-ground full grave.
7. Interments shall be made on Monday through Friday, between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., unless a late burial or cremation interment has been approved by the General Manager or office staff.
8. All graves will be dug to depth, which allows a minimum of 18 inches of earth to be placed on top of all vaults, and liners or cremated remains vault. All single adult graves shall be dug to a depth of five feet at the center. Cremations sites shall be dug to a minimum depth of 30 inches. Opening and closing of graves shall be made by District personnel ONLY.
9. Children may not approach the burial site while a funeral or lowering is in progress. Parents or guardians must keep small children at least six (6) feet away from the open plot area for their own safety.

LIABILITY

1. The Board shall employ a General Manager and such other employees as it may determine to be necessary in the operation of the District.
2. All rules and regulations previously adopted and inconsistent with the foregoing are hereby repealed.
3. The rules and regulations shall be reviewed annually.
4. The Antelope Valley Cemetery District is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged markers, flower vases, benches or any personal memorabilia brought in by family or friends of the deceased.
5. The District, its Board, all individual members of said Board, the General Manager and all other personnel of the District shall not be responsible for injury, illness or damage suffered by any persons (which may also lead to death), in their use of the cemetery grounds. **Any person visiting the cemetery shall do so at his/her/their own risk.**

LEGAL PROVISIONS

1. Interments in the District cemeteries shall be limited in accordance with Section 9060 of the California Health and Safety Code as it now exists or maybe hereafter amended.
2. If a certificate of interment rights holder has no further need for interment rights, he, she or they may sell or transfer his, her or their rights to an eligible person (one who lives in the District). An Endowment Care fee must be paid at the time of transfer, by the seller and the buyer, if not previously paid at the time of purchase. A transfer fee is required for all transfers. No transfer of any right of interment shall be complete or effective until approved under the authority of the District and recorded on the books of the District. A transfer form must be completed by both parties, signed and notarized.