



For more information regarding the City of Seward's Cemetery Management Plan or city code provisions, please contact the City Clerk's Office.

City of Seward
City Clerk's Office
410 Adams Street
PO Box 167
Seward, AK 99664
www.cityofseward.us
907-224-4046

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Burial Procedures

For Funeral Homes & Professional Contractors



City of Seward, Alaska

Losing a loved one is difficult for everyone, and as a professional you provide a great comfort to the family and friends left behind through the services you provide. In times of grief, people need someone to count on, someone who can help the process go smoothly, with the greatest amount of care and respect. To ensure a successful outcome for everyone involved, please familiarize yourself with the burial procedures for the City of Seward outlined below:

BURIAL PERMITS

The Burial Transit Permit issued by the State of Alaska is required for the completion of the city's Burial Permit application. Please provide the state permit number to the family so they can be prepared when applying for their city burial permit. No reservations are allowed for cemetery sites under current city code.

PLOTS

There are four cemeteries in the City of Seward – City Cemetery, American Legion, Masons and Pioneers of Alaska. The exact cemetery and plot location must be documented by the city's Parks & Recreation Department who is responsible for maintaining the cemeteries. Regardless of which cemetery is chosen, please be aware that the requirements outlined in the city code apply to ALL cemeteries.

BURIALS

The plot size must be five feet wide by ten feet long, laid head-to-head, centered on the plot from all four corners, and allow at least 42" depth from top of casket/vault/liner to the ground surface. The ground surface must be maintained at the same elevation as the surrounding surface, and no excavated materials may be placed (even temporarily) upon another grave site (materials may be placed/stored off-site, in a vehicle, or in the adjacent access lanes).

CREMAINS

The plot size must be two feet wide by two feet long, and allow at least 24" feet depth from top of urn to the ground surface.

MARKERS

Temporary markers made of wood, concrete or plastic are acceptable for up to one year from the burial date. Permanent markers are required to be placed within one year of the burial, and can be made of granite, synthetics approved for cemetery use, or cast bronze, brass or aluminum mounted in natural stone or concrete. Only one marker is allowed per gravesite, unless additional family burials are made within the same site (i.e., cremains, children or double burials). Minimum marker size required is 4 ¾" x 8 ¾" x 3" thick. Maximum marker size allowed is 799 square inches x 4" thick. Monuments may be no more than 60" high, including base x 36" long x 18" wide x 8" deep for the base. Markers must be inscribed in either raised or engraved letters of at least ¼" deep/thick to include the first and last name of the deceased and the year of birth and death.

DECORATIONS

Temporary boxes, fences or decorations are allowed for up to 14 days following interment, or until the burial site is seeded for grass or other maintenance is required. No permanent raised obstructions such as mounds, fences, curbing, rocks or large or crushed gravel are allowed. The ground surface must be left at the same elevation as the surrounding surface upon completion of the burial.

MAINTENANCE

The city's Parks & Recreation Department is responsible for the maintenance and appearance of all the cemeteries. Planting trees, shrubs or flowers on or around any gravesite is prohibited without prior approval from the Parks & Recreation Department. Contact them at 907-224-4055 for more information.