

**ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE
CITY OF PORTAGE, MICHIGAN
NOTICE**

**TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CITY
OF PORTAGE AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that an Ordinance to amend Chapter 18, Cemeteries, of the Codified Ordinances of Portage, Michigan, was adopted by the City Council at a regular meeting held on the 11th day of February, 2014, and will become effective March 6, 2014.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Chapter 18, Cemeteries, of the Codified Ordinances of Portage, Michigan, have been amended as follows:

THE CITY OF PORTAGE ORDAINS:

That Chapter 18 shall be amended as follows:

CHAPTER 18. CEMETERIES.

Sec. 18-1 through Sec. 18-9. No change.

Sec. 18-10. Burial standards.

1. No person shall bury a body in a city burial ground except in accordance with state law and the regulations of the state and city boards of health. No person shall bury a body in a city burial ground except in a vault or grave liner.
2. All burials shall be considered earthly and a body or an urn/container holding cremains shall be buried in the ground.
3. All cremains shall be placed in a rigid, sealed urn/container. Urn/container size shall not exceed 14 inches in any dimension; length, height, or width. Total size of the urn/container shall not exceed 1 cubic foot.

Sec. 18-11 through Sec. 18-22. *No change.*

Sec. 23. Standards for markers and memorials.

- (a) Material. A marker, memorial, headstone or monument (all shall have the same meaning under this ordinance) shall be of approved durable composition.
- (b) Foundation. A suitable solid foundation shall be provided for a marker or memorial by the owner of the burial right.
- (c) Payment of cost of repairs. All expenses incurred in the repairing of a marker or memorial shall be borne by the owner of the burial right.
- (d) Design. A monument or marker shall conform to the general plan of the cemetery, and the council shall have final determination as to whether or not the monument or marker is in proper taste.
- (e) Removal of dangerous or dilapidated monuments and markers. If a monument or marker falls into disrepair or becomes unsightly, dangerous or detrimental to adjacent lot owners or the public, it may be removed by order of the city manager after giving 30 days' written notice to the owner of the burial right of the lot at the address given at the time of purchase or a new address subsequently furnished to or available in the office of the city clerk or the assessor.
- (f) Number. Only one marker or memorial is permitted per grave except as noted in subsections (g) and (h) of this section.
- (g) Location. A monument or marker shall be located as shown on the official cemetery maps on file in the office of the city clerk for all graves with up to two interments on a line and in a location as determined by the parks superintendent. Graves with three or more interments may have a second flush monument or marker placed at the foot of the grave, or on a line and in a location as determined by the parks superintendent.
- (h) Dimensions. A monument or marker may not exceed the following size limitations:
 - (1) Thirty- eight inches in height, 14 inches in width, and 38 inches in length for all graves with up to two interments.
 - (2) In a grouping of two or more lots, 38 inches in height, 14 inches in width, and 60 inches in length; and
 - (3) Flush marker at the foot of graves with three or more interments, or in cremains only sections, all be 14 inches wide and 38 inches in length.
- (i) Cremains. Cremains and urns/containers shall not be attached to, incorporated into or made part of a monument or marker.

Sec. 24 through 28, no change.

Sec. 18-29. Pets in city cemeteries.

Pets in all city cemeteries must be restrained on a six-foot or retractable leash. Persons in charge of or in control of pets on cemetery property shall be responsible for clean up and removal of excrement deposited by such pet.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a copy of the Ordinance as amended may be purchased or inspected at City Hall on any business day except public and legal holidays from and after publication of this Notice from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. local time.