Management guidelines for City of Moreton Bay Council Cemeteries

1 July 2024

Council endeavours to provide a high standard of cemetery presentation. In order to ensure that maintenance can occur unimpeded, council has adopted the following management guidelines.

Council provides

Plastic vases for placement of flowers. Two spiked vases may be installed on either side at the top of the headstone. Plastic and or silk flowers may be placed on graves at any time in lieu of fresh cut flowers.

Standard headstones and bronze plaques may be purchased through Council, however Council will consider requests for similar headstones of granite, sandstone or marble.

Placement of Items

A person must not place any item likely to cause a risk to health or safety on a memorial or gravesite. Please refer to prohibited items below.

A person placing an item on a gravesite must ensure that the item does not extend beyond the boundaries of the gravesite.

Items of sentimental nature may be placed on gravesites in the following locations at one's own risk, conditional upon them not being prohibited:

- Lawn grave on the headstone;
- Lawn beam grave on the lawn beam;
- Monumental grave on the monument.

The responsibility for care, maintenance and security of items placed on gravesites rests with the family of the deceased.

Prohibited items

The following items are prohibited within Council's cemeteries:

- In-ground planting of trees, shrubs, flowers or any type of plant;
- Installation of fences, trellises, signs and nameplates;
- Placement of solar lights;
- Placement of glass, ceramic or other items which may cause a safety hazard;
- Placement of rocks or pebbles;
- Placement of pot plants, unless the plant is located in accordance with the above;
- Placement of items which are hazardous or not in keeping with other graves in the cemetery;
- Painting of headstones, without prior written permission from Council;
- Placement of any items which could be deemed to be unsightly, deteriorated, inappropriate or offensive; and
- Placement of artificial turf.



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Cemetery staff may, at any time, remove and dispose of any items that are considered offensive, unsightly, aged, weathered, posing a hazard; or otherwise, contrary to these Guidelines.

Grass turfing

Natural grass coverage will naturally re-establish in the months following a burial; however, families of the deceased may lay grass turf if they wish to do so. Placement of grass turf is at your own risk and you should be aware that grass turf may be unintentionally damaged in the process of routine cemetery maintenance. Grass turf must be laid so that it is level with the surrounding ground surface. The responsibility for care, maintenance and security of grass turf placed on gravesites rests with the family of the deceased.

Monuments and Headstones

Maintenance of monuments and headstones are the responsibility of the burial rights holder and may be a prescribed activity under the Local Law requiring an approval from Council prior to undertaking the activity, depending on the nature of the maintenance.

For more information

W moretonbay.qld.gov.au | T 07 3205 0555 | E council@moretonbay.qld.gov.au

