

**KING CEMETERY
(New Area)
Fox Road, Marlboro VT**



RULES & REGULATIONS

For the mutual protection and benefit of King Cemetery plot owners, the municipality, and the community as a whole, the following rules and regulations are established. All plot owners within the cemetery and all plots sold shall be subject to these rules and regulations, and subject, further, to such other rules and regulations as required by Vermont law.

Before purchasing a plot, you are encouraged to review the King Cemetery website (<https://kingcemetery2.wixsite.com/marlborovt>) and the Sample Deed in addition to this document. Together, these describe specific requirements that must be met during the pre- and post-burial processes.

You are also encouraged to share this information (along with your *actual* deed once your plot has been purchased) with funeral professionals and family members responsible for burial services.



Introduction: The King Cemetery is comprised of two sections: The historic King Cemetery, first established in the 1800s and now full, and the new King Cemetery, created in 2024. These rules and regulations apply only to the new King Cemetery.

The presence of shallow soils and ledge throughout the new King Cemetery prohibit conventional burials that typically involve embalming and a casket placed inside a concrete vault buried five or more feet deep. While this traditional method is not possible, the natural characteristics of the new King Cemetery site offer opportunities for three different types of alternative burials. These include:

1. Full-body green burial in plots located in designated portions of the cemetery.
2. Composted-body green burial in plots located in designated portions of the cemetery.
3. Burial of cremated remains in plots located throughout the cemetery.

The new King Cemetery may not be right for everyone (should a more conventional burial be preferred), but it offers options in keeping with both the physical opportunities and limitations presented by the site *and* with the community's desire to be forward thinking in terms of emerging greener burial trends.

Green Burial at King Cemetery

"Green burial is a way of caring for the dead with minimal environmental impact that aids in the conservation of natural resources, reduction of carbon emissions, protection of worker health, and the restoration and or preservation of habitat." (Green Burial Council)

Plots for full-body green burial and composted-body green burial have been identified within the deeper soils (3.5 feet or more) of the new King Cemetery. These areas may also be used to bury cremated remains.

Plots may be sold by the Town in a strategic manner to facilitate the maintenance of the grounds or to reserve tracks of land to allow for changes or advancements in burial techniques. A vacant, unowned lot is not automatically considered available for purchase.

Purchase of plots does not guarantee usability. If a plot is not viable for burial a substitution will be made if available.

Green Burial Requirements & Restrictions

- Embalming prior to burial is not permitted.
- Full bodies and composted remains¹ shall be buried at depths of *no more than* 3.5 feet (42"). This is within the biologically active soil zone where proper decomposition is optimized.
- Burial containers are limited to those made from materials that are nontoxic/nonhazardous and biodegradable. Examples include: untreated woods (note: softwoods are highly recommended in keeping with natural, green burial biological processes), wool, fiber, natural material cloth, cardboard, seagrass, bamboo, wicker, hemp, papier-mâché, or nothing (no container).
- All burial shrouds must be made of natural plant or animal fibers.
- No vault, grave liner, partition, slab or other outer burial container is allowed.
- Plywood and particle board supports are prohibited.

Green Burial Plot Details & Cost

- Each plot is 5' x 10' (50 square feet) in size.
- Each plot can accommodate: one (1) full-body plus four (4) cremation burials **or** the composted remains of two (2) bodies plus four (4) cremation burials.
- Contiguous plots can be purchased to create a larger family burial site.

¹ The composting of human remains is legal in Vermont, but as of 2025, no composting facilities exist in the Northeast. Learn more before you purchase a plot. <https://earthfuneral.com/vermont/>

- Family members may not dig graves for full-body or composted-body burials. (Contact the Town Clerk or Cemetery Commission to arrange for a grave digger.) Family members may dig and fill graves for the burial of cremains within Green Burial plots, but shall first coordinate with the Town Clerk or Cemetery Commission.
- Plots are \$1,000 each; this includes a one-time grounds maintenance fee for basic perpetual care.
- Stone corner markers are required for Green Burial plots and shall be purchased and paid for separately by plot owners from Abbiati Monuments (includes four 6"x6" stone markers and installation). Plot owners shall make arrangements directly with Abbiati Monuments staff immediately following the purchase of a plot. This is not the responsibility of the Town.



Cremation Burial at King Cemetery

While cremation is not technically considered a type of green burial, it is an option throughout King Cemetery and measures have been put in place to minimize adverse impacts on the environment.

It is important to note that neither full-body burials nor composted-body burials are permitted in plots designated for cremation burial due to shallow soils and the presence of ledge.

Cremation Burial Plots have been identified within the shallower soils (less than 3.5 feet deep) of the new King Cemetery. Cremation Burials are also allowed in all Green Burial plots.

Plots may be sold by the Town in a strategic manner to facilitate the maintenance of the grounds or to reserve tracks of land to allow for changes or advancements in burial techniques. A vacant, unowned lot is not automatically considered available for purchase.

Cremation Burial Requirements & Restrictions

- Embalming prior to cremation is not permitted.
- The minimum burial depth for cremated remains is one foot (12 inches) from the top of the urn or ash pile; cremains shall not be buried deeper than 3.5 feet (42 inches).
- Burial containers/urns are limited to those made from materials that are nontoxic/nonhazardous, and biodegradable. Examples include: untreated softwoods, wool, fiber, natural material cloth, cardboard, seagrass, bamboo, wicker, hemp, papier-mâché or nothing (i.e., ashes simply placed in the ground with no container).
- No vault, grave liner, partition, slab or other outer burial container is allowed.
- Plywood and particle board supports are prohibited.

Cremation Burial Plot Details & Cost

- Each plot is 5' x 5' (25 square feet) in size.
- Each plot can accommodate four (4) cremation burials. (Note: Full-body and composted-body burials are not allowed.)
- Contiguous plots can be purchased to create a larger family burial site.
- Family members may dig and fill graves, but shall first coordinate with the Town Clerk or Cemetery Commission.
- Plots are \$500 each; this includes a one-time grounds maintenance fee for basic perpetual care.
- Stone corner markers are required for each Cremation Burial plot and shall be purchased and paid for separately by plot owners from Abbiati Monuments in Brattleboro (includes four 6"x6" stone markers and installation). Plot owners shall make arrangements directly with Abbiati Monuments staff immediately following the purchase of a plot. This is not the responsibility of the Town.

General Matters Pertaining to All Plots

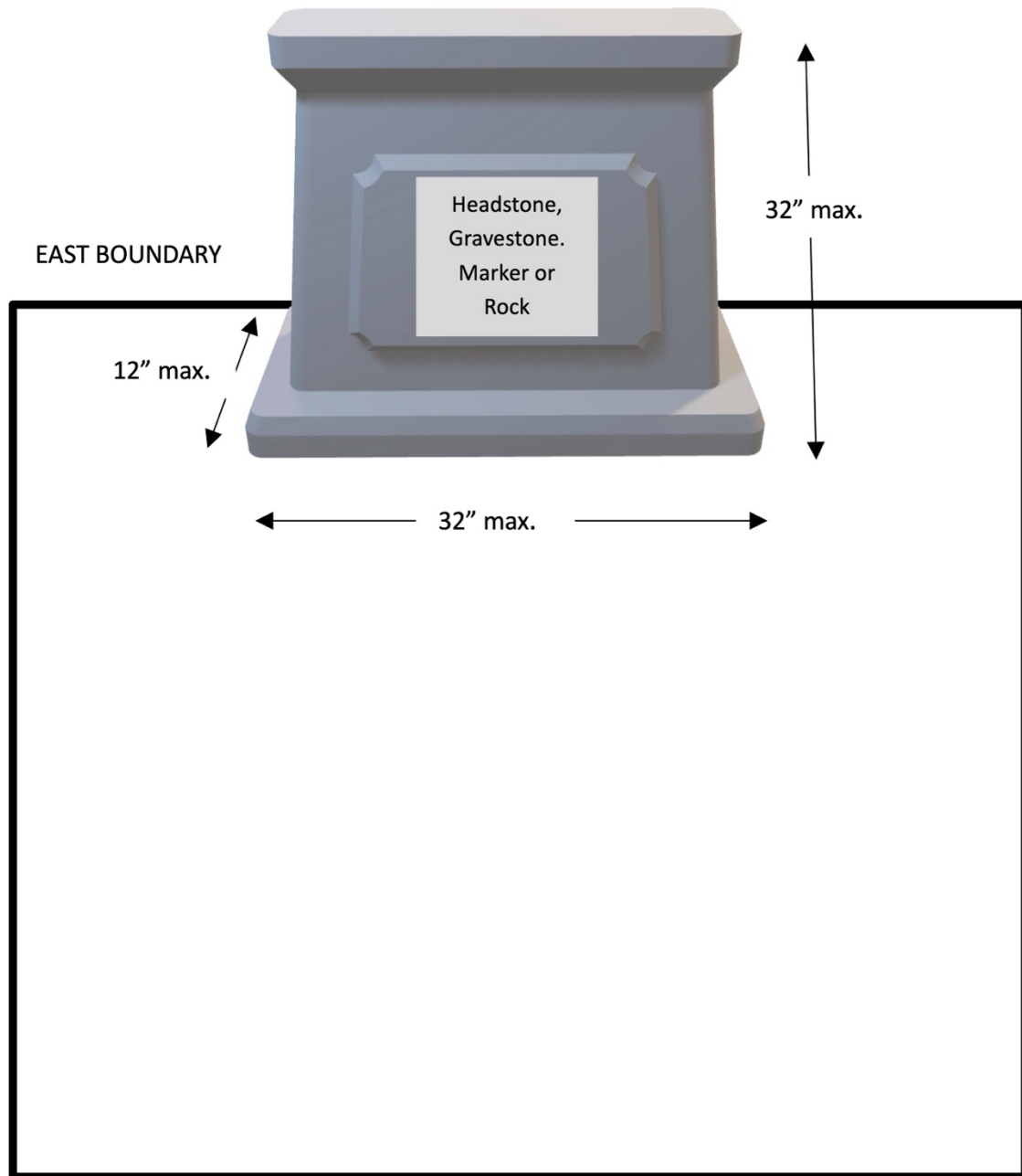
Burial Rights: Burial rights conveyed by the Town of Marlboro shall be the sole and separate rights of the person or persons named in the deed. The burial rights may be conveyed, assigned or deeded to anyone that the deed holder names. Upon the death of the deed holder(s), the descendants and/or heirs will have burial rights.

Recording and Resale of Plots: All plot sales must be recorded in a Burial Plot Sale Deed; plots are available for purchase from the Town Clerk. Lots that will not be used may be sold or donated back to the Town of Marlboro.

Remains: King Cemetery was created for the burial of human remains only. It is not a pet cemetery.

Above-Ground Structures: No vaults, mausoleums, tombs, or crypts are allowed.

Memorialization: Permanent memorialization is allowed only in the form of natural rocks, granite markers, headstones, or gravestones (or nothing). Only one upright, flat or slant memorial/marker/monument or natural rock shall be allowed on a plot. The total dimensions of the memorial piece, including any above ground base on which the monument sits, shall not exceed 32 inches in height, 32 inches in width, and 12 inches in depth (depth shall be measured from the east boundary of the plot). The memorial piece shall be located lengthwise along the east boundary of the plot; it shall face west and be centered on the plot (see diagram below). All monuments shall be set in a way to ensure long-term structural integrity.



Plot Corner Markers: Granite corner markers are mandatory and shall not exceed 6 inches square. The corner markers shall be set flush with the grade and placed at the time of purchase. Corner markers must be purchased by plot owner(s) at their own expense. Contact the Town Clerk or visit the King Cemetery website's *Resources* page for support.

Surround: No fencing, hedging, stone or gravel aprons around memorials or around plots shall be allowed.

Displays: Floral displays on graves are permitted, but limited to fresh-cut flowers. No artificial flowers or plants, potted plants, boxes, toys, shells, artwork, ornaments, chairs, benches or similar articles are permitted.

Plantings: To facilitate perpetual care of King Cemetery by the Town, planting of annuals, perennials, trees, or ornamental shrubs at the gravesite are not allowed.

Town Notification Required Prior to Any Cemetery Work: No site work or burial may take place prior to notification of the Marlboro Town Clerk who will prepare required documentation, notify the Cemetery Commission, and authorize burial work. A valid death certificate is required to be submitted. Adequate notice of any interment shall be given, usually a minimum of two (2) days. All Funeral Directors are required to present the burial permit as required by law to the Town Clerk or designee prior to any interment.