



TOWN OF GRANTHAM NEW HAMPSHIRE

CEMETERY TRUSTEES
300 Route 10 South, Grantham, NH 03753
Phone: 603-863-6021
www.granthamnh.net

MEMORANDUM

Cemetery Operations and the Coronavirus Pandemic

During these challenging times as we are faced with coronavirus pandemic, everyone has concerns about health and safety.

It is imperative that we follow the guidelines being promoted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) via the following link <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/funeral-guidance.html> but also the directives from our government officials.

While all of us know the new normal - social distancing, limit unnecessary travel, avoid groups of people, and, most importantly, wash your hands (for at least 20 seconds), we offer some additional *recommendations* for cemetery personnel:

- Committal services be graveside only and not take place indoors;
- Outdoor graveside services are for the immediate family only. This can be recommended to the funeral homes;
- Inform funeral directors as any additional restrictions and limitations are implemented;
- Lot sale presentations be limited to “at need only” – and encourage on-line or phone arrangements;
- Suspend pre-need sales of lots and memorials unless they can be conducted on-line or by phone;
- Limited public access to town offices and other indoor facilities except to conduct at-need arrangements;
- Keep families informed:
 - both those who already have services scheduled and as new services are scheduled
 - and as additional restrictions and limitations are implemented by the government officials;
- Gloves should be worn when handling a casket, equipment, burial permits, lot licenses, body receipts, payment, and when opening mail;
- Continue wiping down surfaces, credit cards, pens, the interior of vehicles, equipment, tools and etc;
- Keep distance from funeral home personnel and mourners;
- Limit staff from riding in vehicles together – including cemetery trucks and other vehicles;
- Ensure that your staff has read and understands the CDC guidelines established.