

The background of the document is a photograph of the Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) in shades of green and purple, with silhouettes of evergreen trees at the bottom. A large green rectangular area is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the text.

Municipal Cemeteries

The logo for the City of Edmonton, featuring the word "Edmonton" in white text on a dark blue rectangular background.

Edmonton

Regulations and General Information

Revised January 1, 2025

City of Edmonton
Municipal Cemeteries
Box 2359
Edmonton, AB T5J 2R7

780.442.0974
cemetery@edmonton.ca
edmonton.ca/cemeteries

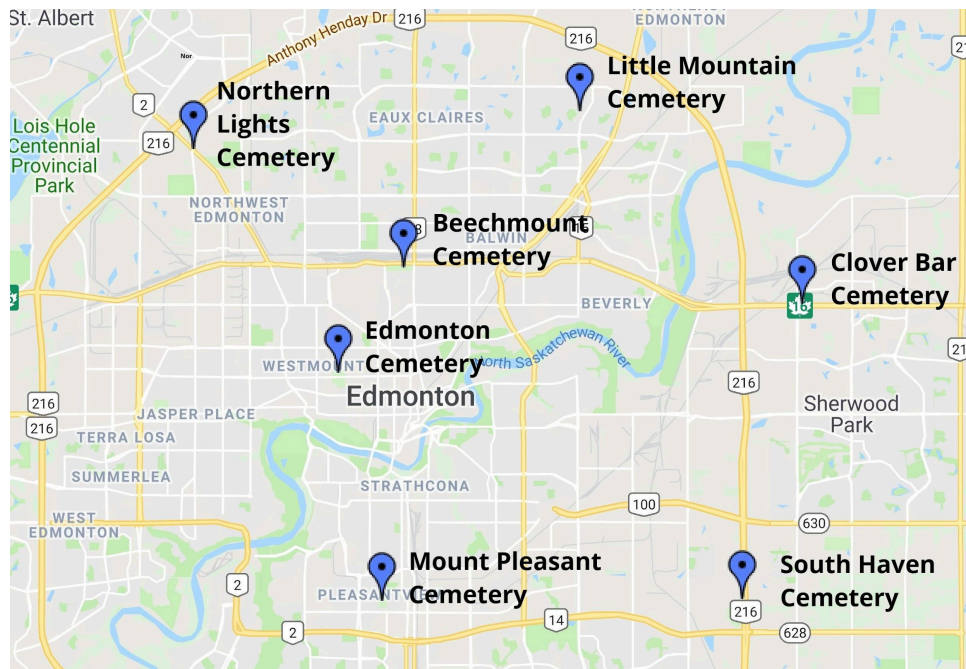
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1.0 General Information

1.1 Cemetery Locations



Historical Cemeteries	Neighbourhood Cemeteries	Premier Cemeteries
Beechmount Cemetery* (Sales & Admin Office) 12420 104 Street NW Edmonton, AB, T5G 2M1	Clover Bar Cemetery 2025 Yellowhead Trail NE Edmonton, AB, T6S 1B4	South Haven Cemetery* (Sales & Admin Office) 5004 Meridian Street NW Edmonton, AB, T6P 1R3
Mount Pleasant Cemetery 5420 106 Street NW Edmonton, AB, T6H 2S9	Little Mountain Cemetery 16025 54 Street NW Edmonton, AB, T5Y 3K1	Northern Lights Cemetery 15203 Campbell Road NW Edmonton, AB, T6V 1H4
Edmonton Cemetery 11820 107 Avenue NW Edmonton, AB, T5H 4J4		

*Mail/Courier Service only at Beechmount and South Haven Cemetery Office locations.
 All other addresses included for physical location only.

1.2 Governing Rules & Legislation

In order to promote the safe, enjoyable, and reasonable use of cemetery facilities and to protect and preserve natural ecosystems for the benefit of all citizens of the City, visitor conduct and activities are subject to City of Edmonton Bylaw 2202 (Parkland Bylaw).

The following is a non-exhaustive list of the legislation that governs cemeteries in Alberta:

- [*Alberta Cemeteries Act*](#)
- [*Freedom of Information and Privacy Act*](#)
- [*Wills and Succession Act*](#)
- [*Estate Administration Act*](#)
- [*Veterans Affairs Act*](#)
- [*Municipal Government Act*](#)
- [*Alberta Water Act*](#)
- [*Burial of the Dead Act*](#)
- [*Occupational Health & Safety Act*](#)
- [*Environmental Protection Act*](#)
- [*Customs Act*](#)
- [*Quarantine Act*](#)

Specific to City of Edmonton Cemeteries:

- [City Parkland Bylaw 2202](#)
- Municipal Cemeteries Regulations & General Information (this guide)

1.3 Safety Concerns - Industry Partners & Contractors

Funeral Homes, Monument Dealers, and subcontractors are required to maintain their own Workplace Health & Safety Program in compliance with OHS Legislation. It is recommended that it include the possible hazards that may be encountered when carrying out the duties to which they are assigned within City of Edmonton Cemeteries.

To assist City Cemetery Staff in maintaining a safe working environment for its employees and industry partners, all work being completed in any of the City of Edmonton Municipal Cemeteries must be scheduled and approved in advance.

The following items require pre-approval

- Monument Applications and Orders
- Monument Deliveries
- Completion of Additional Inscriptions on Monuments
- All Interment Bookings

1.4 Burial & Plot Information

Burial information will be provided upon request to monument providers or owners/families. It is the responsibility of the monument provider to meet with plot/niche owners/families on-site to verify the accuracy of burial location particulars, including plot/niche ownership and orientation for monument placement.

1.5 Outstanding Financial Commitment

If a customer is found in default of outstanding financial commitment on their purchased plot/niche/crypt and services, the contract may be cancelled and any monies paid refunded less an administration fee. If services have been rendered, future monument installation will be denied and existing monuments may be removed with no notice until the balance is paid.

1.6 Plot Ownership - Interment Rights

A sale of a plot, niche, crypt or other interment location is viewed as a long term lease of the rights of interment. The owner of these interment rights is considered the legal plot/niche owner. Ownership of the land itself is retained by the City of Edmonton.

The legal plot/niche owner has the only authority over the authorizations for interments and monuments being requested for the interment location.

1.7 Monuments, Damages & Vandalism

All cemeteries owned by the City of Edmonton are considered parkland under the [City of Edmonton Parkland Bylaw 2202](#).

Placement of a monument on a grave is not mandatory, and is at the discretion of the legal plot/niche owner. The plot/niche owner is responsible for the proper condition and replacement of a monument and the City assumes no liability or responsibility for loss or damage to any monument through acts of vandalism, natural erosion, or damage caused by outside vendors. To place a monument, a permit application and the corresponding fee is required.

The City may remove a damaged monument without notice if it possesses a safety hazard or concern.

The City repairs and replaces existing monument foundations if necessary due to maintenance and safety concerns as determined by cemetery staff at no charge to the plot owner.

In the event that a monument is damaged by City of Edmonton staff, the plot owner will be contacted and the damaged monument will be assessed, repaired, replaced, or compensated in some way that is mutually agreeable to both parties. If a plot owner or representative cannot be contacted, the particulars of the

incident will be kept on file until such time as an appropriate person can be identified. The City of Edmonton will not make any changes to the monument without proper authorization.

In the event that a monument is found damaged by an unknown cause, the City of Edmonton will contact the plot owner and provide specifics of the damage, an incident report number (if required), and a police report number (if required). As monuments are considered the personal property of the plot owner or monument purchaser, The City of Edmonton strongly encourages customers to consider the purchase of property insurance to cover any monuments on cemetery grounds, as the City of Edmonton assumes no liability for reports of damage or vandalism by an unknown cause.

2.0 Contractual Information

2.1 Cancellation / Refund Policy

Cancellation of a contract can be requested at any time for any reason. You may cancel without charge or penalty at any time during the period from the day you enter into the contract until 30 days after you receive a copy of the contract. If you cancel after 30 days, you may still have to pay for interment space and for any cemetery supplies and services that have already been used, performed, or delivered.

To cancel a contract, you must give a notice of cancellation to the owner of the cemetery, columbarium or mausoleum at the address shown in the contract. Notice of cancellation must be by a method that will allow you to prove that you gave notice, such as registered mail, email, fax, courier or by personal delivery.

2.2 Repurchase of Interment Space / Return of Services

The City of Edmonton does not allow the resale of interment space on the open market. If a return of interment space and/or services is desired, The City of Edmonton will repurchase unused (vacant) interment space and unused services (services not rendered) from the legal plot/niche owner. Any return of funds will only be given to the legal plot/niche owner. If the return is requested of interment space and/or services during the 30 day cancellation period, then a full refund will be issued.

Any plot for which the plot owner desires to return to the City of Edmonton after the 30 day cancellation period has lapsed is subject to a return fee of 15% of the plot's market value at the time of return request. Any niche or crypt for which the niche/crypt owner desires to return to the City of Edmonton after the 30 day cancellation period has lapsed is subject to these usage fee percentages (contained in the table on Page 9) retained from the current market value of the product at the time of return request. The credit remaining will be returned to the niche owner, less any applicable fees and costs to return the product to saleable condition.

Additional fees may apply depending on the circumstances of the original sale and products already provided. A Refund Processing fee for each interment space returned will also be levied. As per Canada Revenue Agency regulations, GST is not returned on interment space after the 30 day cancellation period. For returned services, the original GST amount paid is returned.

Owners of all plots, niches, and crypts are responsible for returning the condition of the interment space to an "as new" state before the refund is approved and credits returned to the plot/niche/crypt owner. This may include removal of monuments, commemorative items, and replacement of niche cover or crypt doors as applicable. These items are subject to additional fees.

**Percentage (%) Usage Fee Retained From Niche or Crypt
Current Market Value**

	Niche or Crypt With Interment (Used)	Niche or Crypt Without Interment (Vacant)
0 - 5 Years	15% Fee	15% Fee
6 - 10 Years	30% Fee	
11 - 15 Years	45% Fee	
16 - 20 Years	60% Fee	
21+ Years	75% Fee	

NOTE: Calculations are based on the earliest Interment date of Niche or Crypt being returned to the City of Edmonton

2.3 Cancellation of Monument Contracts

If the cancellation of a monument contract is requested during the 30 day cancellation period, and the contract has not been paid in full, or signed approval has not been given, then a full refund will be issued. Additional fees may apply depending on the circumstances of the original sale and products and services already provided.

If the monument has been ordered with the signed approval of the purchaser, and the contract paid in full, the monument is then considered final sale and is not eligible for a refund.

2.4 Transfer of Substitution of Pre-Paid (Pre-need) Products and Services

In the event a service or product is no longer offered or available, a similar product or service may be substituted at no additional charge, or the original purchase value will be refunded.

2.5 Ownership Transfers

2.5.1 Rest in Peace - Condition of Transfer

Transferring ownership of a plot, niche or crypt that has existing interments will only be permitted under the condition that the existing interments will not be disturbed. The only exception is when a disinterment/reinterment occurs of the deceased in the same plot location in a different position.

2.5.2 Ownership Policy and Fee Structure

The City of Edmonton requires a living legal plot/niche owner in order to authorize interments. As such, a transfer of ownership may be required before an interment is able to proceed. As interment space is considered an inheritable asset, a transfer of ownership is a legal process governed by the [Wills and Succession Act](#), the [Estate Administration Act](#), as well as the [Alberta Cemeteries Act](#).

If a transfer of ownership is desired or required, an ownership transfer document research & retrieval fee will be collected. This is a one-time, non-refundable fee. There is also a plot transfer fee (per plot), as well as document preparation fees for the generation of statutory declarations.

The Cemetery Client Care Representative will guide the inquiring individual and/or legal plot/niche/crypt owner through the process to transfer ownership. In many cases, a transfer of ownership can take a number of months to complete, depending on the research and documentation required. Customers should be prepared to produce documents related to the estate of the original owner (ie. Will, Letter of Probate, etc.). The City of Edmonton strongly encourages families to plan ahead to ensure any future interments are able to proceed.

Below are some of the most common scenarios and the steps required to transfer ownership in each case. Please note the City of Edmonton reserves the right to require a Court Order to transfer ownership in some cases.

In instances in which there are multiple plots/niches/crypts and/or multiple generations and the inquiring individual requires a Court Order to obtain ownership, a report will be provided outlining:

- Plot ID(s)
- The owner of record
- Number of interment spaces remaining for use
- Monuments existing on the plot

2.5.3 Plot/Niche Owner Living

Living Plot/Niche Owner to another person; adding new owners

A living owner can submit a request to transfer ownership of a plot/niche/crypt to another person, OR to add new owners. Statutory declarations must be completed for all current and new owners, and the administration fees in effect at the time will be applicable for each plot being transferred. The ownership transfer document research & retrieval fee will not apply.

2.5.4 Plot/Niche Owner Deceased

Deceased Plot/Niche Owner (Estate) to another person(s) - Living Executor/Personal Representative

In order to transfer ownership of a plot/niche/crypt from a deceased plot/niche owner's estate, verification of the designated Executor or Personal Representative as per the Will or Letter of Probate is required. At the request and direction of the executor/personal representative, plot/niche/crypt ownership can be transferred to a new owner(s). If the transfer is completed with the interment arrangements or within 6 months of the owner's passing, the ownership transfer administration fee will be waived. The one-time ownership research fee will be applied in addition to any document preparation fees.

Deceased Plot/Niche Owner (Estate) to another person(s) - Executor/Personal Representative Deceased, and/or Plot/Niche Owner's Will Cannot be Located, and/or Plot/Niche Owner's Will Does Not Exist

If the plot/niche owner is deceased, and the executor of the plot/niche owner's estate is deceased, and/or the Will of the plot/niche owner cannot be located/does not exist, there are a few different legal processes which may apply depending on the scenario. The Cemetery Client Care Representative handling the inquiry will be able to advise on what is required in each circumstance. Below are examples of what may be required (not exhaustive):

- A Grant of Administration for the plot/niche/crypt owner's estate. This is a court document declaring a new personal representative for the plot/niche/crypt owner's estate. This declared personal representative then has the authority to transfer the plot to a new owner.
- A Court Order directing the transfer of the plot/niche/crypt in question to a specific person.
- For intestate cases, a transfer based on the *Wills and Succession Act* may be accommodated. However, the City reserves the right to require a Court Order or Grant of Administration on a case by case basis.

The ownership transfer will not proceed until all documentation is obtained. The ownership transfer fee per plot/niche/crypt, a document fee for each statutory declaration required, and the one-time ownership research fee will apply.

2.6 Disinterment Policy and Procedures

The City of Edmonton will perform disinterment of human remains in the most dignified, safe, and respectful manner possible. The City of Edmonton reserves the right to deny any disinterment request that does not meet any of these criteria. Please review the steps required in each of the following circumstances.

2.6.1 Disinterment of Casket Burial

Customers seeking to disinter a casket burial must first select a funeral home of their choice in order to complete this service. An application to Alberta Vital Statistics for a disinterment/reinterment permit must be approved in order for a disinterment to occur. The City of Edmonton requires customers to work with their funeral home to make this application for disinterment/reinterment of a casket burial to Alberta Vital Statistics. As some viruses and diseases may remain in an active state for decades after the death of an individual, Alberta Vital Statistics will review all applications and the cause of death to ensure that restrictions are closely followed. For more information about this service or application process, please contact the funeral home of your choice, or the Municipal Cemeteries Sales and Administration Office. Please note casket disinterments only occur between May 1 and October 31 unless an exception is granted.

Once a funeral home is selected, an application is submitted and approved by Alberta Vital Statistics, and permission authorized by the City of Edmonton, the booking of the disinterment/reinterment can proceed. Please note that all disinterment activities must be authorized by the legal plot owner, and are subject to a fee available by quote. Contracts must be paid in full before the disinterment/reinterment can occur.

The City of Edmonton will be responsible for opening the designated plot location, and digging to the depth of the concrete liner or vault, and bringing the concrete liner or vault up to the surface. In the event there is no concrete liner, casket, or the liner cannot be recovered from the plot, additional shoring will be required at an additional fee to ensure safe access to the plot. City of Edmonton staff are not permitted to enter plots for any reason, or to handle human remains.

The funeral home of the customer's choice will be responsible for recovering the human remains from the liner brought up to the surface, or in the event there is no liner or it cannot be recovered, recovering the human remains from inside the plot, utilizing the shoring and safe access provided.

The unauthorized removal of human remains may be subject to legal action.

2.6.2 Disinterment of Cremated Remains

Customers seeking to disinter cremated remains from a City of Edmonton plot, niche, or crypt, must obtain a disinterment application from the City of Edmonton. This application will include a Statutory Declaration outlining the parameters of the disinterment. There is a fee required for this service, as well as a document fee for any statutory declarations generated.

Please note that removal of cremated remains from interment space for any reason is considered a disinterment and is subject to this policy. All disinterment activities must be authorized by the legal plot/niche owner.

Once the disinterment application has been approved by the City of Edmonton, with a contract signed and paid in full, the disinterment will be scheduled and completed by City of Edmonton staff. The unauthorized removal of human remains may be subject to legal action.

2.7 Product and Service Requirements

2.7.1 Concrete Liners or Vault

In order to reduce safety concerns caused by collapsing ground areas, the City of Edmonton requires that a concrete liner purchased through the City of Edmonton, or a vault supplied through a funeral home, is used to house the casket when placed in a grave. The only exception to this is the designated Green Burial section.

The dimensions of our standard concrete liners are:

Adult (Concrete Box, Large)

Interior Dimensions 29" W x 85" L x 23 $\frac{7}{8}$ " H

Exterior Dimensions 32 $\frac{5}{8}$ " W x 88 $\frac{3}{4}$ " L x 30 $\frac{7}{8}$ " H

Child (Concrete Box, Small)

Interior Dimensions 19 $\frac{3}{4}$ " W x 56" L x 14" H

Exterior Dimensions 24" W x 60" L x 21" H

Please ensure the casket that has been chosen will fit inside the liner. This includes any handles or adornment on the exterior of the casket. The City of Edmonton is not liable for any damages to the casket as a result of any effort required to place the casket in the liner.

2.7.3 Cremation Urn Vaults

The City of Edmonton offers Cremation Urn vaults as an option for customers to house urns when placed in a grave. Please contact a Client Care Representative for more information.

2.8 Late Arrivals / No Shows

Once an interment has been arranged and confirmed with the cemetery the arrival time is no longer negotiable on the day of the service. In some circumstances an interment may need to be rescheduled if the arrival time of the procession is impacting other services and cemetery staff are no longer available.

2.9 Interment Arrangements - Casket, Crypt, Niche, or Scattering

The preparation of any burial location and coordination of staff for an interment booking requires advance notice. Please find below our booking deadlines for interments:

Day of Interment	Booking Required Previous to Interment
Saturday	Wednesday, 12pm
Sunday	Wednesday, 12pm
Monday	Wednesday, 12pm
Tuesday	Thursday, 12pm
Wednesday	Friday, 12pm
Thursday	Monday, 12pm
Friday	Tuesday, 12pm
Statutory Holidays	Information provided to all Edmonton and area funeral homes prior to each holiday

If the completion of the booking falls outside of these booking deadlines, we may not be able to accommodate your request for your desired interment date and time. In these cases, the next available date and time agreeable to both parties will be provided.

Please note the following items will be required prior to the booking being completed:

- A cemetery location that has been purchased and paid for before the interment occurs.
- Permission from the legal plot/niche/crypt owner to inter the deceased in the interment space.
- If the deceased is the plot/niche/crypt owner then their interment may proceed without any changes to the existing arrangements.
- If the interment is for the plot/niche/crypt owner and the arrangements for their interment are to be altered, then these changes must be authorized by the Executor or Personal Representative. The authorization is considered obtained once the "Application to Inter" document has been signed and returned to the Municipal Cemeteries Sales and Administration Office.
- If the plot/niche/crypt owner is deceased and the request is for an additional interment, the plot/niche/crypt must be transferred to a new owner prior to any additional interment occurring.
- Fees for additional services and products may be applicable depending upon the request. These are to be paid before the interment occurs.

- For traditional casket burials, a Burial Permit issued by an authorized authority is required before the interment occurs.
- For interments of cremated remains, a Burial Permit or Cremation Certificate issued by an authorized authority is required before the interment occurs.
- In the event that the death occurred outside of Canada and the remains are being transported into Canada to be interred, then a Death Certificate and approved Canada Customs documentation for the transportation of the remains will act as the official Burial Permit. If the Certificate or paperwork is not in English, it will need to be officially translated and stamped at the customer's expense.

2.9.1 Interment Premiums

Additional Interment Premiums will apply to book interments after 4pm on weekdays, weekends (Saturday and Sunday), and Statutory Holidays (as defined by the Government of Alberta). No Interment Premiums apply from Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm. Please speak with a Client Care Representative to determine which fees will apply.

Please note that Interment Premiums are not able to be pre-arranged, and are not included in any pre-arrangements, past or present. All interment costs, including any relevant Interment Premiums must be paid in full prior to the interment. Interments which are not paid in full prior to the interment may be cancelled without notice.

2.9.2 Pallbearing Services

For traditional casket burials, our workplace safety regulations require that a total of six pallbearers are present for each interment. In the event that the full complement of six pallbearers is not present, the service will be delayed until the full complement is arranged by the family or funeral home.

The City of Edmonton only provides a maximum of two staff to assist with pallbearing for each interment. This service must be requested in advance and is subject to a fee.

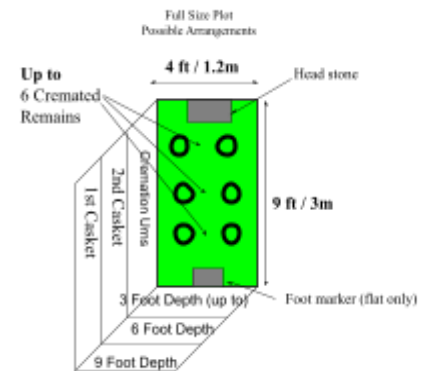
2.0 Plot Configurations

The City of Edmonton Municipal Cemeteries has criteria for the interment of human remains, including standards for depth of burial and size of casket or grave liner per each 4 x 9' plot.

3.1 Full Size Plots

For interment of human remains in a 4' x 9' full size plot:

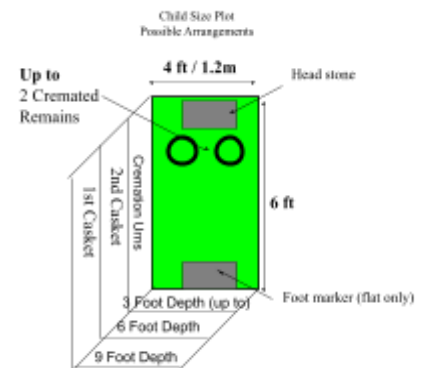
- The depth of the grave must be sufficient to allow for a minimum of 3' of earth between the upper surface of the casket and the level of the ground.
- The casket and grave liner or vault must be no greater than 42" in width and 8' in length.



3.2 Child Size Plots

For interment of human remains in a 4' x 6' child size plot:

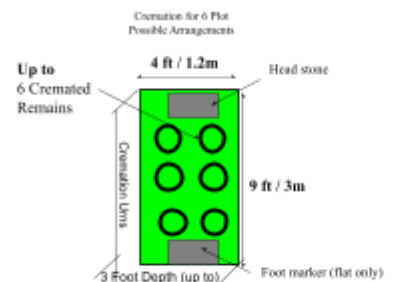
- The depth of the grave must be sufficient to allow for a minimum of 3' of earth between the upper surface of the casket and the level of the ground.
- The casket and grave liner or vault must be no greater than 24" in width and 60" in length.
- The Child Sized Plots are in designated areas and may hold a maximum of 1 traditional child burial with a maximum of 2 urns allowed.
- The cremated remains are limited to immediate family only. (mother, father, sister, brother). Child Size Plots do not refer to the age of the deceased, but rather the size of the deceased. In some situations, a full size plot will be required to inter a child.



3.3 Cremation Plots

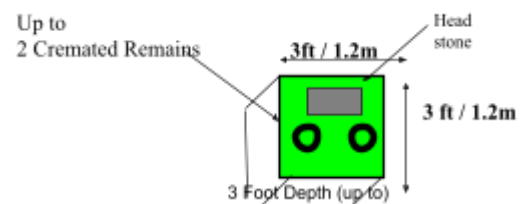
For interment of cremated remains in a 4' x 9' full size cremation plot:

- A maximum of six urns per plot.



For interment of cremated remains in a 3' x 3' cremation plot (individual foundation/flat marker areas):

- A maximum of two urns per plot.



For interment of cremated remains in a 3' x 3' cremation plot (designated sections of gradebeam/upright marker areas):

- A maximum of four urns per plot

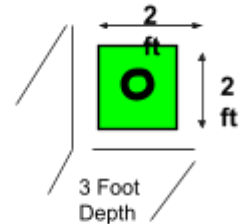
For interment of cremated remains in a 4' x 3' cremation plot:

- A maximum of two urns per plot.
- In specific locations of Mount Pleasant, Beechmount & Edmonton Cemetery, 3 urns are allowed. The third urn would be located beneath the marker. This must be confirmed by the City of Edmonton prior to booking.

For interment of cremated remains in a 2' x 2' cremation plot:

- A maximum of one urn per plot. (Beechmount Cemetery only)
- Memorialization on Memorial Wall (Beechmount Cemetery only)

Memorialization on Memorial Wall
Beechmount Only



For other non-standard plot sizes, please consult with your Client Care Representative to determine the maximum number of interments permitted and their corresponding layout.

3.4 Green Burial Plots (Aurora Gardens - Northern Lights Cemetery)

For interment of human remains in a 4'x 9' full size plot:

- The depth of the grave must be sufficient to allow for a minimum of 3' of earth between the upper surface of the casket and the level of the ground.
- Body must be prepared for Green Burial without embalming and buried in a biodegradable shroud with backboard, simple container or casket made from natural fibre, wicker or sustainably harvested wood. Please see your funeral home for more information.
- No concrete liners or vaults permitted in this area.
- Only 1 full size interment permitted per plot.

4.0 Operations and Grounds Keeping Information

4.1 Seasonal Cleanup

In early May a comprehensive cleanup of all Municipal Cemeteries is completed. Hazardous items, litter, and all artificial flowers will be collected. We strongly encourage placement of all artificial flowers and personal items to occur after Seasonal Cleanup, as all items will be removed during this time period.

Items collected by City of Edmonton staff will be handled in the following manner.

- Items that are subject to decomposition will be disposed of immediately.
- Items that do not decompose will be removed without notice and held for a minimum of one month. After one month has passed the items will be disposed of.
- Items made of glass or ceramic will be disposed of as these are considered a safety hazard.

To find an item that may have been removed by City of Edmonton staff please check the shelving units located in the cemetery in question.

- Beechmount Cemetery – behind the little house
- Mount Pleasant Cemetery – in front and to the south of the Indoor Niche Building
- Edmonton Cemetery – on west side of old administration building
- Northern Lights Cemetery - on east side of operations yard
- South Haven Cemetery – on west side of operations yard
- Little Mountain Cemetery - call Administration Office at 780-442-0974
- Clover Bar Cemetery – call Administration Office at 780-442-0974

4.2 Snow Removal

To facilitate road clearing in winter, it may be necessary to have windrows or snow piles on the roadways and curbs in each cemetery. Although every effort is made to keep snow from the roads off of gravesites, it is often unavoidable. No disrespect is intended.

To prepare for snow and road clearing throughout the cemeteries, vases embedded in flat monuments which have been turned upright for the summer season will be turned down in their lowered position starting in October. This extends the life of the vase and monument, and prevents incidental damage in the winter. Please note that markers and vases remain the property of the plot/niche owner/monument purchaser and the City of Edmonton assumes no liability for their maintenance, care, or natural deterioration. Signage will be available at all cemeteries advising visitors of when this practice is in effect.

Snow will not be removed from graves for visitation purposes. In earth burial areas, snow will be removed for access during an interment only.

4.3 Monument Installations

Monument Type	Timeline for Installation
3" Flat Markers (requires concrete encasement before installation)	8-10 weeks upon delivery
4" Flat Markers (no concrete encasement)	4-6 weeks upon delivery
Upright Individual Foundations	May-Sept: 4-6 weeks upon approved permit Oct-April: 8-10 weeks starting at Spring thaw

Please contact the Municipal Cemeteries Sales & Administration office for more information or to inquire about having a monument installed for an upcoming interment.

Special Note: Effective September 1, 2025, the minimum thickness required for flat markers will be increased to 4 inches. These markers will not be encased in concrete. Any orders or permits submitted after this date must adhere to these regulations.

4.4 Temporary Moving of Monuments

To facilitate the opening of a plot, it may be necessary to move monuments on the grave or surrounding area. Every effort is made to return the monuments to the proper locations in a timely manner. No disrespect is intended.

4.5 Tamping of Graves

Tamping of graves requires that the ground be in a condition that the tamping is feasible. Casket interments in the winter will not be tamped until late spring/early summer depending on weather conditions.

4.6 Walking or Driving on Graves

To facilitate normal cemetery operations it is required that City of Edmonton Cemetery staff may drive or walk on graves. No disrespect is intended.

4.7 Burning Barrels and Fires Safety

Burning barrels can be requested as part of an interment service if required for cultural purposes. For same day last minute requests, every attempt will be made to provide the service, however, it may not be possible depending upon other service commitments.

During a fire ban, burning barrels are not permitted.

4.8 Flower beds

The City of Edmonton allows for permanent flower beds to be planted along the front edge of a monument in upright or gradebeam sections only. If a flower bed is desired, please note the following requirements and contact the Municipal Cemeteries Sales and Administration office to confirm it is permissible for the specific location:

- Flower beds may be planted along the front edge of a monument to a maximum depth of 15”.
- The flower bed will be enclosed with flush to ground landscape edging
- Only annual flowers are permitted and may be planted from April 1 to September 30.
- Flowers and flower beds are subject to environmental factors and inadvertent maintenance damage. The City assumes no responsibility for loss or damage to floral tributes placed on graves.
- Existing flower beds that are dismantled to prepare a grave for burial will not be replaced by the City of Edmonton.
- Existing flower beds that are not maintained (cleaned and planted) by June 30th of each year may be returned to grass to facilitate maintenance of the cemetery grounds.

4.9 Floral Tributes on Plots and Monuments

Flowers and flower beds are subject to environmental factors and inadvertent maintenance damage. The City of Edmonton assumes no responsibility for loss or damage to floral tributes placed on plots or monuments and assumes no responsibility for their care.

Live flowers placed on a plot at the time of interment will be left for a minimum of one week depending upon environmental conditions.

Artificial flowers are permitted in approved vases and may remain throughout the year. Please contact the Municipal Cemeteries Sales and Administration office to inquire about having your vase approved.

Unapproved vases will be removed without notice.

Families are responsible for maintaining the appearance of silk flower arrangements. Cemetery staff, without prior notice, will remove silk flower arrangements that are not adequately maintained.

Artificial wreaths, floral arrangements not in vases, and temporary markers may be placed on a grave between October 1 and the start of seasonal cleanup the following spring, at which time they will be removed and discarded. Environmental and site conditions may alter the placement or location of any such arrangements.

4.10 Memorial Adornments and Safety

Items made of glass or ceramic cause a significant safety hazard for visitors and staff. Any items in cemetery grounds made of these materials will be removed and disposed of without notice.

Items of significant sentimental or monetary value should not be left on a plot/niche or affixed to the monument or placed in a vase. Cemeteries are considered public parks and there is no security or guarantee that the items will not be removed by the general public. The City assumes no responsibility for loss or damage to any items placed on graves and assumes no responsibility for their care.

4.11 Flower Tributes and Adornments for Indoor Niches

Approved memorial display items may be placed inside the indoor niche at the time of interment or at the request of the owner once per year at no charge during regular business hours. The year will be defined as January to December. Each additional request during the calendar year will be subject to the regular open/close fee and after-hour fees (if applicable) in effect at the time. Arrangements must be made a minimum of 48 hours in advance by calling the Municipal Cemeteries Sales and Administration Office.

Approved Item Criteria for Indoor and Outdoor Niches:

- Silk/artificial flowers
- Bronze plaques that are cast with flower holders may contain silk or artificial flowers.
- Families are responsible for maintaining the appearance of silk flower arrangements. Cemetery staff, without prior notice, will remove silk flower arrangements that are not adequately maintained.
- The item is not deemed offensive.
- The item does not pose a potential safety hazard.

It is recommended that niche owners include the niche monument under their Homeowner or tenant insurance. The City of Edmonton is not responsible for damages caused to the vases or niche cover due to vandalism.

Glass Front Indoor Niches

All items will be placed inside the niche. Items affixed to the outside of the glass or left on the floor will be removed without notice. Any damages caused to the niche front due to prohibited materials will be the financial responsibility of the niche owner.

Marble or Granite Front Niches

The following items may be purchased from the Municipal Cemeteries Sales and Administration office for adornment of marble or granite niches. These items will require an application and installation shall be completed by City of Edmonton Cemetery staff. Items affixed to the outside of the niche, or left outside of the

niche will be removed without notice. Any damages caused to the niche front due to prohibited materials will be the financial responsibility of the niche owner.

- Bronze plaques (if applicable)
- Engraving (if applicable)
- Commemorative ceramic photographs (Outdoor Niches Only)

4.12 Adornment for Plots, Scattering Gardens, and all other Memorial Products

The City of Edmonton considers all City Cemeteries to be Parkland. Thus all the regulations identified under the Parkland Bylaw 2202 are in effect. Adornment is limited to approved monuments and vases, floral tributes and flower bed services. Unapproved adornments and personal items will be removed without notice by City of Edmonton staff.

It is highly recommended that items of a personal nature not be left at gravesites as cemeteries are Parkland, and thus are public places with unrestricted public access.

Items collected by City of Edmonton staff will be handled in the following manner.

- Items that are subject to decomposition will be disposed of immediately.
- Items that do not decompose will be removed without notice and held for a minimum of one month. After one month has passed the items will be disposed of.
- Items made of glass or ceramic will be disposed of as these are considered a safety hazard.

To find an item that may have been removed by City of Edmonton staff please check the shelving units located in the cemetery in question.

- Beechmount Cemetery – behind the little house
- Mount Pleasant Cemetery – in front and to the south of the Indoor Niche Building
- Edmonton Cemetery – on west side of old administration building
- Northern Lights Cemetery - on east side of operations yard
- South Haven Cemetery – on west side of operations yard
- Little Mountain Cemetery - call Administration Office at 780-442-0974
- Clover Bar Cemetery – call Administration Office at 780-442-0974

5.0 Monument Information and Regulations

The following regulations address general monument application processes, dimensions, materials, and delivery and installation requirements. Please contact the Municipal Cemeteries Sales and Administration Office for further specifications and exceptions.

5.1 Monument Applications

The City of Edmonton requires that a Monument Application Form be submitted by the monument provider detailing all specific monument materials, dimensions, scope of work, and any relevant monument installation fees. Approval will be granted based on all requirements met for all requested monuments, including materials and dimensions, or for proposed work to existing monuments. Application forms are available (electronic or paper) at the Municipal Cemeteries Sales and Administration Office.

Approval will be provided to the monument provider. Monuments arriving for installation without proper approval from the City of Edmonton will be refused and returned to the monument provider. Monument Application approvals are only acceptable in written form. Monuments that are produced without prior cemetery approval are the responsibility of the monument purchaser and the monument provider.

Owing to the special nature of historical cemeteries and necessary on-site inspections, memorial applications for historical cemeteries (Beechmount Cemetery, Edmonton Cemetery, and Mount Pleasant Cemetery) may take up to two weeks for processing.

Monument applications will be marked and returned as “not approved” if:

- Monument does not meet dimensional and material requirements.
- Application is incomplete.
- Application is submitted on an outdated form.
- Application is submitted without payment.
- Application is not signed by the plot owner OR a statutory declaration not completed for monuments being placed by other parties.

Please note that although the Municipal Cemeteries Sales and Administration Office distributes new application forms and regulations as required each year, it is the responsibility of the monument provider to ensure that the most current form is correctly completed and submitted. The City assumes no responsibility for claims or damages resulting from errors in monument content, layout, formatting or design, including but not limited to errors in wording or name placement, spelling, date or other inaccuracies relating to inscribed information.

Please note family monuments (customer owned columbarium units) are only permitted to be sold through and installed by the City of Edmonton.

5.2 Crypt & Niches Covers

Due to the operational logistics of crypt and niche cover memorialization, these services can only be purchased and arranged by the Municipal Cemeteries Sales and Administration office. These services cannot be provided by an outside vendor. This includes both engraving, laser pictures, photos, bronze plaques, and bronze wreaths.

5.3 Monument Delivery and Installation

All monument delivery and installation must be accompanied by proper written approval as described on Page 23. Any monuments installed without the proper permits will be removed and an administration fee may be charged to the monument provider.

Upon delivery:

- Flat Markers: City of Edmonton cemetery staff will inspect and install markers, subject to approval and stated requirements. Flat Markers will be installed April to October.
- Upright and Pillow Monuments: Monument providers will install monuments from dawn until dusk, seven days per week, subject to approval and stated requirements.

Please note that beginning October 1, the installation of flat markers is subject to weather conditions. Once frost and a layer of snow is on the ground, installation will cease. The City of Edmonton will not guarantee flat marker installation after October 1, and will advise monument providers when installation has ended for the winter and resumed in the spring.

5.3.1 Work Notification Sheet

The City of Edmonton requires that monument providers submit a work notification sheet following all marker delivery, monument installation or completion of added inscriptions or pick-up and removal of any monument. The notification sheet must summarize and verify work being carried out in the cemetery. Failure to submit a work notification sheet will result in an administration charge per incident.

5.4 Delivery Times and Locations

Upright and Pillow Monuments can be installed dawn until dusk, seven days a week.

Notification to all monument providers will be sent in the Spring and Fall, indicating the first and last delivery day to deliver flat markers to the City of Edmonton. Delivery of Flat Markers must not occur outside of these time periods without prior approval. Flat Markers can be delivered from 9:00am to 4:00pm, Monday to Friday at the following locations:

Cemetery to be installed	Delivery Location
South Haven Cemetery	South Haven Cemetery
Clover Bar Cemetery	
Mount Pleasant Cemetery	
Little Mountain Cemetery	
Edmonton Cemetery	Northern Lights Cemetery
Beechmount Cemetery	
Northern Lights Cemetery	

5.5 Maintenance, Removal, and Replacement

The plot/niche owner is responsible for the proper condition and replacement of a monument and the City of Edmonton assumes no liability or responsibility for loss or damage to any monument through acts of vandalism or natural erosion. The City of Edmonton may remove a damaged monument to maintain a safe environment.

The City of Edmonton repairs and replaces existing monument foundations as necessary due to maintenance and safety concerns at no cost to the plot owner.

Existing monuments that do not meet current specifications will be grandfathered, however, in the event the monument needs replacement, the new monument(s) are required to meet the existing regulations in place at the time of purchase.

5.6 Monument Composition

The City of Edmonton requires that all monument materials, including marker bases, must be made of granite or bronze. Marble may only be used for repairs to existing marble memorials, not replacement. Please contact the Municipal Cemeteries Sales and Administration Office for additional information on acceptable materials.

A temporary plastic, metal or wooden marker may be approved and left on a grave during the winter months (October 30 to March 15). If the temporary marker impedes normal cemetery operations it may be removed without notice. Temporary markers are not provided by the City of Edmonton.

5.7 Monument Placement

The City of Edmonton only allows a maximum of 2 markers on a plot. The placement of these markers is restricted to one at the head of the grave (either individual or shared), and one at the foot of the grave (either individual or shared). A shared marker counts towards this maximum on each of the plots on which it spans.

5.8 Photographic Reproductions

Photographic reproductions on monuments are conditionally permitted, depending upon the type of photographic reproduction and style of memorial. Please contact the Municipal Cemeteries Sales and Administration Office for further clarification on what types of photographic reproductions are permitted and on which monument or marker styles. The restrictions for photographic reproductions are listed below:

- All photographic reproductions must be recessed on flat markers and not extend higher than the marker profile.
- No photographic reproductions are allowed on military monuments.
- Photo Blasts are not permitted.

Laser etching is conditionally permitted on flat markers, however the City assumes no liability for the increased risk of weathering and damage of laser etching on flat markers. A statutory declaration must be completed.

Please note that photographic reproductions and their replacement are the responsibility of the monument provider and plot/niche owner. The City of Edmonton will redirect the monument owner to the monument provider to resolve any concerns over broken, vandalized or stolen reproductions.

5.9 Monument Accessories

Granite balls, pagodas or any other type of approved accessory for a monument must not exceed the maximum allowable monument height and width.

Please note that vases are not permitted in front of a flat marker, at the foot of a plot, on military monuments, or in the Field of Honour.

Please find below the guidelines for inscriptions and casting:

- Can include Names, DOB, DOD, and Epitaph.
- The City of Edmonton reserves the right to remove any memorial that can be construed to mean or represent something offensive either in written or pictorial form.
- Trade names and logos are prohibited on all monuments.

- Commemorative inscriptions when no burial on location exists must state that interment has taken place elsewhere. Please contact your Client Care Representative for information on suggested phrasing.

5.10 Monument Accessories

All pre-need monument applications fees can be pre-approved and pre-paid. The additional inscription or additional tabs costs will be determined at the time of need. The City of Edmonton will return the approved application to the monument provider, which the monument provider will retain and produce upon monument delivery or completion of additional inscription work.

Please note that commemorative inscriptions when no burial on location exists must state that interment has taken place elsewhere.

5.11 Additional Monument Information

The following monument requests will be considered on a case by case basis:

- Statues, cairns and boulders
- Family memorials

Due to the nature of the regular cemetery daily operation, the maximum number of plots a monument may span is two.

The maximum size allowed for the foundation is 6 inches smaller than the combined widths of the graves. Monuments larger than this requirement exceed the tolerances of the regular independent foundations and grade beams and interfere with the normal cemetery maintenance and operations.

Existing monuments that do not meet these specifications will be grandfathered, however, in the event the monument needs replacement, the new monument(s) are required to meet the existing regulations in place at the time of purchase.

5.12 Vase Requirements

Permanently affixed to or beside marker at HEAD of grave

The following permanent vase types are permitted:

- Granite (regular or inverted)
- Bronze (regular or inverted)
- Metal Craft with Coating (regular or inverted)

Temporary Vases with Stands or ground spikes

A variety of types are available at your Funeral Home provider.

Vases of any type will not be permitted in the following circumstances

- In front of a flat marker.
- At the foot of a plot (as part of a marker or on its own).
- On military monuments.
- In the Field of Honour

Please note that vases have a limited lifespan and are not under warranty by the City of Edmonton. A vase installed in a northern climate is subject to extreme changes in temperature and is accessible to people, wildlife and unforeseen factors that will affect the life of the vase. Depending upon the composition of the vase it should be expected that replacement vases will need to be purchased periodically by the plot/niche owner due to normal wear and tear.

Vases that are broken and considered a safety hazard will be removed by the City of Edmonton.

5.13 Lantern Guidelines

Lanterns with LED lights may be permitted either in a privately maintained flower bed or affixed to an upright monument in the place of a vase. The lanterns cannot have candles that can be lit. The lantern cannot have glass in its composition; the windows must be plastic or plexi-glass.

Please note the addition of a Lantern is at the risk of the plot/niche owner/family. It is allowable but not recommended and the City of Edmonton assumes no liability in the event it is damaged or goes missing.

6.0 Monument Specifications

6.1 Upright Monuments (Single Plot)

Plot Type	Grave Width	Foundation	Monument Base			Die		
	Size	Max Length	Max Length	Min Height	Min Width	Max Length	Max Height	Min Thickness
Single Upright Monument with Grade Beam								
Full Size Plot Including NL Four Oaks, Grandview, SH Autumn Glory, MP Estates and All Flat Markers on Grade Beams Child Size Plots NL, SH Cremation Plot NL, SH Cremation for 6 Plot MP	48	42	42	4	8	38	36	4
Single Upright Monument Without Grade Beam - Individual Foundation Required								
Full Size Plot All Cemeteries Cremation Plot NL, SH Cremation for 6 Plot MP	48	42	36	4	8	32	36	4
Child Size Plot BM, ED, MP Cremation Plot BM, ED, MP, LM	36	30	24	4	8	20	20	4

NOTE: All measurements are in inches.

BM = Beechmount ED = Edmonton MP = Mount Pleasant NL = Northern Lights SH = South Haven

LM = Little Mountain CB = Clover Bar

6.2 Pillow Monuments (Single Plot)

Plot Type	Grave Width	Foundation	Monument Base			Die		
	Size	Max Length	Max Length	Min Height	Min Width	Max Length	Min Height	Min Width
Single Pillow Monument with Grade Beam								
Full Size Plot All Cemeteries Child Size Plots NL, SH Cremation Plot NL, SH Cremation for 6 Plot MP	48	42	42	4	18	38	Front 3 Back 5	14
Child Size Plot BM, ED, MP	36	30	30	4	18	26	Front 3 Back 5	14
Single Pillow Monument Without Grade Beam - Individual Foundation Required								
Full Size Plot All Cemeteries Cremation Plot NL, SH Cremation for 6 Plot MP	48	42	36	4	18	32	Front 3 Back 5	14
Child Size Plot BM, ED, MP Cremation Plot BM, ED, MP, LM	36	30	24	4	18	20	Front 3 Back 5	14

NOTE: All measurements are in inches.

BM = Beechmount ED = Edmonton MP = Mount Pleasant NL = Northern Lights SH = South Haven

LM = Little Mountain CB = Clover Bar

6.3 Upright Monuments (Double/Side by Side Plots)

Plot Type	Grave Width	Foundation	Monument Base			Die		
	Size	Max Length	Max Length	Min Height	Min Width	Max Length	Max Height	Min Thickness
Double Upright Monument with Grade Beam								
Full Size Plot Including NL Four Oaks, Grandview, SH Autumn Glory, MP Estates and All Flat Markers on Grade Beams Child Size Plots NL, SH Cremation Plot NL, SH Cremation for 6 Plot MP	96	90	90	4	8	86	36	4
Double Upright Monument Without Grade Beam - Individual Foundation Required								
Full Size Plot All Cemeteries Cremation Plot NL, SH Cremation for 6 Plot MP	96	90	84	4	8	78	36	4
Child Size Plot BM, ED, MP Cremation Plot BM, ED, MP, LM	72	66	60	4	8	56	20	4

NOTE: All measurements are in inches.

BM = Beechmount ED = Edmonton MP = Mount Pleasant NL = Northern Lights SH = South Haven

LM = Little Mountain CB = Clover Bar

6.4 Pillow Monuments (Double/Side by Side Plots)

Plot Type	Grave Width	Foundation	Monument Base			Die		
	Size	Max Length	Max Length	Min Height	Min Width	Max Length	Min Height	Min Width
Double Pillow Monument with Grade Beam								
Full Size Plot All Cemeteries Child Size Plot NL, SH Cremation Plot NL, SH Cremation for 6 Plot MP	96	90	90	4	18	86	Front 3 Back 5	14
Child Size Plot BM, ED, MP Cremation Plot BM, ED, MP	72	66	66	4	18	62	Front 3 Back 5	14
Double Pillow Monument Without Grade Beam - Individual Foundation Required								
Full Size Plot All Cemeteries Child Size Plot NL, SH Cremation Plot NL, SH Cremation for 6 Plot MP	96	90	84	4	18	80	Front 3 Back 5	14
Child Size Plot BM, ED, MP Cremation Plot BM, ED, MP	72	66	60	4	18	56	Front 3 Back 5	14

NOTE: All measurements are in inches.

BM = Beechmount ED = Edmonton MP = Mount Pleasant NL = Northern Lights SH = South Haven

LM = Little Mountain CB = Clover Bar

6.5 Additional Upright Marker Specifications

Due to the nature of regular cemetery operation, the maximum number of graves a monument may span is two. The maximum size allowed for the foundation is 6 inches smaller than the combined widths of the graves. The minimum thickness for a monument is measured at the bottom of the die where it is attached to the base.

Bases must have rock pitched sides. It may be permitted to have 1 inch polish lip with the understanding that the Cemetery will not be responsible for any scratches or damages caused through normal cemetery operations.

The maximum height of a monument includes base height, die height and accessories that are situated at the top of the die (for example, a pagoda ball). This combination cannot exceed 48 inches.

6.6 Upright Military - Field of Honour

Plot Type	Grave Width	Boot (COE Install)	Die		
	Size		Max Length	Max Height	Width
Military Upright Monuments					
Full Size Plot	48	31 x 11 x 6	15	39 (min 6" into boot)	3

NOTE: All measurements are in inches.

Additional Information for Military Monuments

- All military monuments must meet the criteria established by the appropriate military authorities.
- Military monuments may be modified to fit into permanent grade-beams or individual pads by reducing the height and encasing the monument in a concrete boot. The combined height of the boot, base and die cannot exceed 36".
- Military monuments on grade-beams or individual foundations may not be placed upon a granite base.
- Lithochrome highlighting is permitted on military monuments if paid for by the monument owner/family.
- All inscriptions must be a minimum height of 1 ½" above the ground.
- Flat Military Monuments are not acceptable in the "Fields of Honour" at the head of the plot.

6.7 Flat & Flat at Foot Monuments (Lawn Markers)

6.7.1 Bronze Monuments

Plot Type	Grave Width	Foundation	Die		
	Size	Max Length	Max Length	Min Thickness	Max Width
Single Flat Monument - Bronze					
Full Size Plot All Cemeteries	48	42	36	Gussets required	18
Cremation Plot NL, SH, LM, CB					
Cremation for 6 Plot MP					
Child Size Plot BM, ED, MP	36	30	24	Gussets required	18
Cremation Plot BM, ED, MP					
Double Flat Monument - Bronze					
Full Size Plot All Cemeteries	96	90	84	Gussets required	18
Cremation Plot NL, SH, LM, CB					
Cremation for 6 Plot MP					
Child Size Plot BM, ED, MP	72	66	60	Gussets required	18
Cremation Plot BM, ED, MP					

NOTE: All measurements are in inches.

BM = Beechmount ED = Edmonton MP = Mount Pleasant NL = Northern Lights SH = South Haven

LM = Little Mountain CB = Clover Bar

6.7.2 Granite Monuments

Special Note: Effective September 1, 2025, the minimum thickness required for flat markers will be increased to 4 inches. These markers will not be encased in concrete. Any orders or permits submitted after this date must adhere to these regulations.

Plot Type	Grave Width	Foundation	Die		
	Size	Max Length	Max Length	Min Thickness*	Max Width
Single Flat Monument - Granite					
Full Size Plot** All Cemeteries	48	42	36	3	18
Cremation Plot NL, SH, LM, CB					
Cremation for 6 Plot MP					
Child Size Plot BM, ED, MP	36	30	24	3	18
Cremation Plot BM, ED, MP					
28 x 48 Cremation Plot BM	48	42	36	3	12
Double Flat Monument - Granite					
Full Size Plot** All Cemeteries	96	90	84	3	18
Cremation Plot NL, SH, LM, CB					
Cremation for 6 Plot MP					
Child Size Plot BM, ED, MP	72	66	60	3	18
Cremation Plot BM, ED, MP					
28 x 48 Cremation Plot BM	96	90	84	3	12

NOTE: All measurements are in inches.

**Excludes Full Size Plots in Grade Beam areas. Please reference the Upright Monuments specifications.

BM = Beechmount ED = Edmonton MP = Mount Pleasant NL = Northern Lights SH = South Haven
LM = Little Mountain CB = Clover Bar

6.7.3 Bronze on Granite Monuments

Plot Type	Grave Width	Foundation	Die			Granite Base		
	Size	Max Length	Max Length	Min Thickness	Max Width	Max Length	Min Height	Max Width
Single Flat Monument - Bronze on Granite								
Full Size Plot All Cemeteries Cremation Plot NL, SH, LM, CB Cremation for 6 Plot MP	48	N/A	38	Gussets required	20	42	4	24
Child Size Plot BM, ED, MP Cremation Plot BM, ED, MP	36	N/A	26	Gussets required	20	30	4	24
Double Flat Monument - Bronze on Granite								
Full Size Plot All Cemeteries Cremation Plot NL, SH, LM, CB Cremation for 6 Plot MP	96	N/A	86	Gussets required	20	90	4	24
Child Size Plot BM, ED, MP Cremation Plot BM, ED, MP	72	N/A	62	Gussets required	20	66	4	24

NOTE: All measurements are in inches.

BM = Beechmount ED = Edmonton MP = Mount Pleasant NL = Northern Lights SH = South Haven
 LM = Little Mountain CB = Clover Bar

6.8 Additional Flat Marker Specifications

- Due to the nature of regular cemetery operation, the maximum number of graves a monument may span is two. The maximum size allowed for the foundation is 6 inches smaller than the combined widths of the graves.
- Flat marker dies that are to be placed in a foundation (maximum 3 inches thick) must have a rough edge (balanced rock pitch). Sawn sides are not permitted.
- Flat marker dies thicker than 4 inches will be placed without a concrete foundation.
- Flat marker dies in concrete frames are not permitted on grade beams.
- Granite flat marker dies on a granite base with a rough edge (balanced rock pitch) are permitted on grade beams.
- Bronze-on-granite flat marker dies with a rough edge (balanced rock pitch) are permitted on grade beams.
- All bronze-on-granite flat markers must have a minimum 2" clearance from the outside edge of the bronze to the outside edge of the granite and be a minimum of 4" in thickness.
- Flat bronze markers must be raised on the backs with gussets.
- Flat markers at the Head of the grave may include a vase at the time of production.
- Double, side-by-side plot flat markers wider than 5' must be a minimum of 8" in thickness.
- Individual markers are not permitted in the Green Burial area (Northern Lights Cemetery - Aurora Gardens). There is a communal marker for commemoration in this area.
- **Special Note: Effective September 1, 2025, the minimum thickness required for flat markers will be increased to 4 inches. These markers will not be encased in concrete. Any orders or permits submitted after this date must adhere to these regulations.**

Specifications for Markers and the Foot of a Plot

- Flat markers only
- Only permitted on full sized graves
- Permitted only after marker at head of grave has been installed

7.0 Definitions

Base

The lowest portion of a memorial upon which a monument or marker is installed. Dimensions: Length (horizontal) x Width (depth) x Height (thickness). Bases must have rock pitched sides.

Bench

A Commemorative style monument that can be made of granite with engraving or iron/oak with a bronze plaque dedicated to an individual(s). City of Edmonton Municipal Cemeteries no longer allows wooden commemorative benches.

Bronze on Granite

A marker that has a bronze plaque mounted on a granite base. It can be either a flat marker encased in concrete at ground level or placed on a foundation as an upright.

Burial Permit

A burial permit is a document required to bury or cremate the remains of the deceased. It is required by law that cemeteries not perform a burial without a burial permit. If the deceased has been cremated, a Cremation Certificate can be accepted in its place.

Burning Barrel

A vessel designed to burn "Ghost Money" or "Funeral Paper" in keeping with various cultural traditions. During a fire ban, the Burning Barrels will be removed from the cemetery grounds.

Columbarium

An above-ground structure designed for the purpose of interring cremated human remains in niches

Commemorative Monuments

A monument/plaque etc. that is placed in memory of a person who is interred elsewhere.

Concrete Liner

A Concrete Liner is installed for the purpose of cemetery maintenance and safety. Use of a liner ensures burial sections are level; allowing cemetery visitors, workers and equipment to pass over existing graves safely and to facilitate grounds care functions. A concrete liner does not seal and will not prevent the entrance of water and other gravesite elements into the space occupied by the interred decedent.

Cremation Certificate

A certificate produced by a crematorium after a cremation is completed. A cemetery can accept the Cremation Certificate in place of the Burial Permit for cremated remains.

Cremated Remains or Cremains

Human remains that have undergone the cremation process and the body has been reduced to small pieces of ash and bone.

Crypt

A burial chamber located within a mausoleum for above ground casket interments. The chamber may contain room for one or two caskets.

Death Certificate

A medical certificate of death that is signed by an authorized person of the jurisdiction where the death occurred, specifying the date, location and cause(s) of death. Each country has laws and/or regulations regarding who is authorized to issue a medical certificate of death. Generally speaking, the attending physician or coroner is authorized to issue a medical certificate of death. A burial permit is required to proceed with Cemetery arrangements.

Die

The upper portion of an upright monument above the base.

Field of Honour

A designated section in a cemetery which is specifically dedicated to our war veterans.

Fire Ban

A fire ban means no fires are permitted. During a Fire Ban you cannot light, maintain or use a fire in the open, or to carry out any activity in the open that causes, or is likely to cause, a fire. This includes burning barrels or fires in the pavillon stoves.

Flat (Grass/Lawn) Marker

A memorial that lies in the ground, flush with the ground level. Dimensions: Length (horizontal) x Width x Height (thickness). These markers will be encased in a concrete foundation. All Flat markers are to have rock pitched edges. Please note a flat marker may be considered an upright marker if it has sawn sides and is placed on a base on top of a foundation.

Flat Section

A part of a cemetery where only Flat style markers are permitted. No exceptions.

Foot Marker of Flat at Foot

A flat marker that is installed at the foot of a full-size grave. The marker may be made of bronze or granite. Vases are not permitted on markers located at the foot of the grave. Order and installation of a foot marker is only permitted after a marker at the head of a grave has been installed. The marker must have rock pitched edges.

Foundation

The concrete pad supplied and installed by the City of Edmonton on which the base of a monument is installed; the concrete or granite frame supplied and installed by the City of Edmonton that encases a flat marker.

Gradebeam

A permanent foundation at the head of a row of plots which allows for placement of approved monuments throughout the year.

Granite

An accepted industry term, granite refers to a range of rocks that are hard, can take a polish but are not technically granite in geological terms. Contact the Municipal Cemeteries Sales and Administration Office for additional information on acceptable materials.

Grant of Administration

A court document which identifies and appoints an individual to act as a representative for a deceased person who did not have a Last Will and Testament.

Letter of Probate

A court document which validates the Last Will and Testament of the deceased.

Mausoleum

A free-standing building constructed as a monument enclosing the interment space or burial chamber of a deceased person or persons. The Edmonton Cemetery Mausoleum is a combination of crypts and niches.

Memorial or Monument

A monument or marker placed upon a cemetery plot for the purpose of identification or in memory of a deceased person or persons.

Monument Application

An application from a monument dealer to the cemetery requesting authorization to produce and deliver a monument for a specific cemetery plot/location. The application includes the specifications of the monument including but not limited to:

- Cemetery Location
- Type of Monument i.e. Upright, flat etc.
- Dimensions and material description of Base, Die, vases and/or accessories
- Approval of verified plot/niche owner including signature and legible personal information

Niche

A hollow space in a Columbarium to place cremated remains.

Niche Cover

The monument front on an individual niche in a columbarium structure. The memorialization is either engraved or laser etched directly on the granite or marble OR a bronze plaque or wreath is affixed to it.

Pillar

A Commemorative style monument that is made of granite with a bronze plaque dedicated to an individual.

Pillow Monument

A low, tilted monument that is taller in the back and gently slopes to the front. Pillow monuments are considered to be upright monuments. Dimensions: Length (horizontal) x Width x Height (back/front). This monument style does not include structures that contain cremated remains.

Pregnancy and Infant Loss Program

Alberta Health Services and Covenant Health, in conjunction with various funeral homes and cemeteries, offer services for the interment of stillborn and newborn babies who passed away prior to going home from the hospital. Every three months, all the babies are transported together to a funeral home, where the cemetery arrangements are made with either Edmonton Municipal Cemeteries or Edmonton Catholic Cemeteries.

Rocked Pitch

The exposed edge of a marker or base which has a rough edge. Minimum thickness 3"

Sawn Sides

The exposed edge of a marker which has a smooth edge. Minimum thickness 4"

Scattering

Respectfully dispersing the cremated remains of an individual in a designated scattering garden within a cemetery. This does not include the scattering in open waterways. For more information about scattering in open waterways please click [here](#).

Sloped Upright Monument (Hickey)

A monument that gently slopes downward from the top and is thicker at the bottom. Dimensions: Length (horizontal) x Top Thickness (depth)/Bottom Thickness (depth) x Height (vertical). This monument style does not include structures that contain cremated remains.

Temporary Marker

A marker generally supplied by funeral homes, made of either plastic or metal and staked into the ground for an allowable period of six months. The City of Edmonton does not supply temporary markers.

Upright Monument

A monument that is perpendicular to the ground. Dimensions: Length (horizontal) x Thickness (depth) x Height (vertical). A flat marker with a base is considered an upright/pillow marker. This monument style does not include structures that contain cremated remains.

Upright Section

A part of the Cemetery that has been designated for upright style markers. If an Upright Section has grade beams installed it is restricted to Upright monuments only. If an Upright Section (in a Historic Cemetery) has no grade beams installed a flat marker may be permitted. Please contact the Municipal Cemeteries Sales and Administration Office for confirmation.

Vault

While a protective vault serves the same functional purpose as the concrete liner it also provides added protection for the interred decedent. The heavier, reinforced construction of a protective vault provides added protection against the weight of the earth above and surrounding the vault. In addition to improved structural strength the protective vault has a sealing lid and high impact ABS lining that combine to seal the vault and protect the interred casket and decedent from the entrance of water and other gravesite elements.