

LAKE FOREST CEMETERY

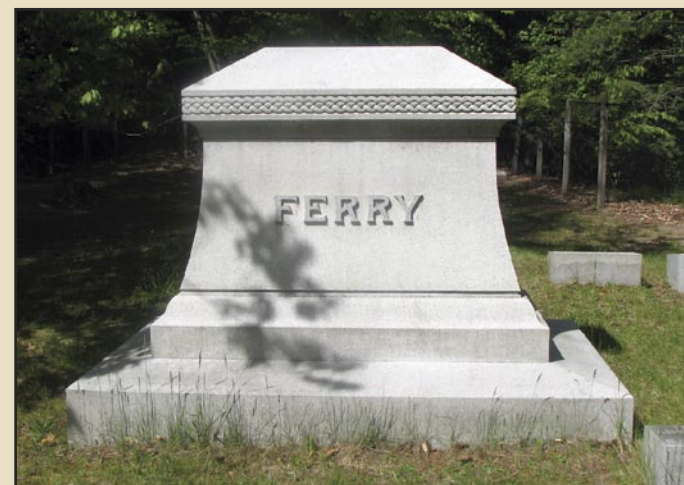
Lake Forest Cemetery is owned by the City of Grand Haven (City) and is maintained by the Public Works Department. It is a perpetual care facility, which is funded through the sale of interment sites and through contributions from the City's General Fund.



The Conservancy area of Lake Forest Cemetery is a managed natural area consisting of graves, Scatter Garden, and Columbarium for the interment of cremains.

History

In 1867 the necessity arose to move Grand Haven's cemetery from what is now Central Park. In 1872 forty acres on each side of Lake Avenue was purchased and designated for park and cemetery use. Lake Forest Cemetery adjoins the original Ferry Lot (Founder's Hill, upper southwest area of Lake Forest Cemetery). The first burial was in September 1873, near Potter's Field (Section No. 22). In the mid-1880s the City mandated the removal of all bodies from Central Park. Free lots in Lake Forest Cemetery were given for remains that were moved from Central Park by families or friends (Section No. 37–east end).



Many improvements have been made over the years. Babyland was added in 1956, (Section No. 23–southwest end). The Lee Chapel was gifted to the City in 1966 and is available for funeral and memorial services at no charge. In the mid-1980s the Sunken Garden (Section Nos. 49, and 50–52) was developed, followed most recently by the Natural Section (Section Nos. N–10 & N–11). Further expansion for that area is planned.



Cemetery Board

The Cemetery Board is authorized to declare such rules and regulations that it deems appropriate concerning decorations on lots and such other matters deemed pertinent to the care and custody of the cemetery.

The Cemetery Board has promoted such projects as paved roads, new office buildings, Babyland, and more recently, the Sunken Garden, the Columbarium, and natural areas.

The Cemetery Board has adopted a uniform set of rules and regulations, which may change from time to time as needs arise. This brochure was created to provide a brief summary of those rules and regulations, policies, and to answer common questions.

Cemetery Office Hours

The Lake Forest Cemetery sexton, his staff, along with the Cemetery Board strive to keep Lake Forest Cemetery a beautiful, dignified, park-like setting.

The Lake Forest Cemetery Office is generally open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, times are subject to change. Other hours are available by appointment. Please call 616-847-3489 if an appointment is necessary.



Contact Information

Mailing Address

519 Washington Avenue
Grand Haven, MI 49417

Cemetery Address

1304 Lake Avenue
Grand Haven, MI 49417

Web Site Address

www.grandhaven.org

Telephone

616-847-3489

LAKE FOREST CEMETERY

Grand Haven, Michigan



Rules & Regulations

RULES & REGULATIONS

Conduct

- Picking flowers, and/or disturbing plants, trees, or wildlife is forbidden.
- Defacing or destroying structures within the cemetery is forbidden.
- Alcohol is not allowed on the premises.
- Weapons are not allowed, unless permitted for specific exception.
- There will be no solicitation, peddling, profane language, placement of signs or notices, or other interferences with interment services.



Décor

Ground plantings of any kind are prohibited. The use of shepherds hooks and the like to anchor decorations is strictly forbidden. All such items deemed inappropriate, unsightly, detrimental to cemetery upkeep, or offensive will be removed.

Winter decorations or artificial wreaths may be placed on graves from October 1 through the following May 1. After that date, winter decorations may be removed. Artificial or real flowers are allowed in urns and metal pails only; all others will be removed.



Memorial items (benches, trees, shrubs, and the like) may be accepted by the City; their placement will be determined by the public works director.

Urns and Containers

Cement urns with the Roman Key, Grape or Westminster pattern are acceptable for use at Lake Forest Cemetery. Sturdy, flat-bottomed or footed, metal pails are also acceptable.

One large cement urn or metal pail is allowed on a lot with two adjoining graves, along with a double marker. Single grave spaces are allowed to have one small cement urn or metal pail on their lot. Urns and containers must be placed to the side of the marker. In the flush marker sections, only metal pails are allowed.

Flags

Designated volunteers may place the flag of the United States on servicemen and women's graves a few days prior to Memorial Day. Flags will be removed no later than two weeks after Memorial Day.



Burial Rights

No person will own the title to any cemetery grave. Purchases are for burial rights only and associated perpetual care of the grave. An individual may purchase up to four graves, unless prior approval has been received. Each grave will be predestinated. The City Clerks Office must be notified of any changes of address that affect the grave. No person, other than the burial rights holder, will be interred in a grave without the written consent of that burial rights holder.

Individuals may not sell, transfer, deed or otherwise dispose of burial rights for profit.

Burials per Grave

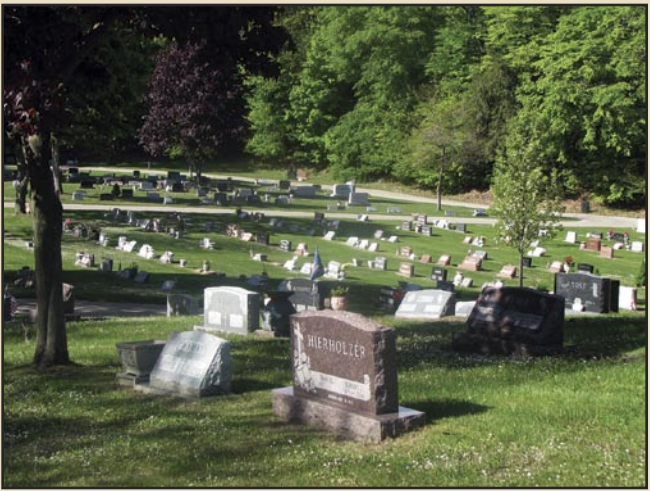
The interment of two or more individuals in one grave is prohibited. Exceptions are: a mother and her infant, if interred at the same time, and two sibling infants interred at the same time. Up to six cremated remains may be interred in a single grave, with a single marker. With approval from the director of public works, one cremated remain may be interred with a standard burial, if room at the head or foot of the grave permits.

Memorials

Only one family memorial shall be allowed on a family lot with at least eight grave spaces, two of which will be used for the memorial. The size and design of the memorial must be approved by the director of public works. Only individual flush markers are permitted when used in relationship to a family memorial.

Markers

Temporary markers (metal name plates) may be used to identify a grave for up to six months from the date of interment.



For regulations regarding permanent markers, memorials or mausoleums, fees and services, and other pertinent information, please refer to the full Rules and Regulations of Lake Forest Cemetery, available at the Department of Public Works Office, 1120 Jackson St., Grand Haven, Michigan, or they may be found online at www.grandhaven.org.

Fees

Burial rights and associated fees are established by the Grand Haven City Council, with recommendations from the Cemetery Board. Fees are published as part of the Lake Forest Cemetery Rules and Regulations and at www.grandhaven.org.

Funeral Services

To ensure the safety of persons attending, all funerals and services from November 1 through April 1, will be held at the Lee Memorial Chapel. The director of public works will consider requests for graveside services contingent upon weather and safety.



