

Tulare Public Cemetery District Bench Policy

The purpose of this policy is to provide members of the public who are eligible to purchase interment rights in the District, a dignified and respectful means for recognizing the memory of a decedent(s) interred in a District cemetery.

Memorial benches shall be composed solely of granite or marble which ensures that the memorial bench will be weather resistant and sturdy enough to handle the weight of at least 300 pounds.

A memorial bench may only be placed in a District cemetery with the written approval from the District Manager and the Board of Trustees.

Upon payment of the current location bench fee and current setting fee (concrete pad) the location of a memorial bench may be reserved for a maximum period of 90 consecutive calendar days. If the bench has not been paid in full within 90 days the fees will be refunded, and the location site will become available for sale again.

The record owner of a memorial bench shall mean the person who purchased the memorial bench or his or her designee or assignee, or any successor in interest. It is the responsibility of the owner of the memorial bench to inform the Cemetery office of any and all contact information as it changes.

The location and placement of a memorial bench in a District cemetery shall constitute a license for the non-exclusive right, privilege, and permission to place a memorial bench on District property at a District approved location, which shall be subject to revocation and replacement in the event the District determines in its sole discretion it is necessary to relocate a memorial bench pursuant to any applicable policy, rule, regulation, law or adopted design or plan pertaining to the respective District cemetery.

Members of the general public visiting the District cemeteries are permitted to sit on any memorial benches located in any of the District cemeteries during the District's normal visitor hours.

All memorial benches will be installed only by the District or a authorized contractor approved by the district. The District reserves the right to refuse to install any memorial bench that does not meet the requirements and specifications set forth in this policy. All unauthorized installations will be subject to immediate removal and disposal by the District without notice to the record owner. Any costs incurred by the District for removal, disposal or replacement of any unauthorized installations will be charged to the record owner and shall be due and payable to the District within 30 days of the date an invoice is dispatch to the record owner by certified mail, sent by electronic mail or personally delivered.

All memorial benches will be installed in a manner that is consistent with the official plans and designs of the cemetery. The District reserves the right to refuse the installation of any memorial bench that is not consistent with the above specifications.

Flower vases or any other receptacle shall not be affixed or attached to a memorial bench.

The maximum seat dimension size for all bench markers is 4"x14"x48."

The legs of the benches at the Veterans Monument will be tapered wider at the bottom and 4" thick.

All designs on the legs of the benches will be 4" above the bottom of the legs.

Kern Cemetery - Oleander Lane maximum dimension size for all bench markers is _____ and shall be placed to the _____ of the grave

The District is not responsible for repairing, removing, or replacing any memorial bench that has been damaged through no fault of the District. The responsibility for repairing, removing, or replacing a memorial bench that has been damaged through no fault of the District rests solely with the record owner of the memorial bench. The District does not provide any supplies, equipment, electricity, and fuel, power source for the repair, removal or replacement of memorial benches damaged through no fault of the District.

The District may cause the removal of any memorial bench without notice to the record owner of the memorial bench that has caused bodily harm or property damage, poses a risk of causing bodily harm or property damage, or poses a risk to public safety as determined by the District in its sole discretion. The District will charge the costs associated with any such removal and any necessary repair and replacement costs to the party deemed responsible for such damage. The District will store any damaged memorial bench for a period of thirty days for retrieval by the record owner of the memorial bench for repair. Upon the expiration of the 30th day, the District reserves the right to dispose of any damaged memorial bench in any manner the District deems appropriate.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Since the Public Cemetery District Law obligates the District to provide for the respectful interment of human remains to meet the cultural, economic, religious, and social needs of California's diverse communities, the District finds that there is a compelling interest in operating and maintaining the District's cemeteries in a manner that is welcoming and comforting to all visitors who come to pay their respects to their dearly departed loved ones. As such, the District reserves the right to reject any epitaph or term of endearment that includes any words, phrases, symbols, etc. which have been deemed patently offensive, disruptive, fighting words, indecent or obscene by a published legal opinion of any court of competent jurisdiction.