

RULES AND REGULATIONS  
FORT WHITE CEMETERY (ADDITION)  
and  
HEAVENLY REST CEMETERY (ADDITION)

***1. Purchase of Lots***

Persons desiring to purchase a lot (or lots) in the cemetery are to be referred to the Town Clerk. The Clerk will have available plats showing the size and price of lots and such other information as may be required and will be pleased to render assistance to those desiring to make lot purchases.

Upon purchaser having made a lot selection, and making necessary financial arrangements, the Clerk will issue a Deed or a Cemetery Lot Reservation Agreement.\*

***2. Ownership and Title of Lots***

The terms “Lot Owner” or “Ownership” shall be construed to mean an easement and the right to use a lot, as purchased from the Town for a consideration, for burial purposes only and under the rules and regulations as prescribed by the Town for such use. Upon full payment of the purchase price of a lot the Town shall issue a Deed under its seal, and said Deed number and owner’s name will be recorded in the records of the Town as evidence of ownership of the lot(s). Lots for which deeds have been issued by the Town will not thereafter be divided, except by consent of the Town. All lots are exempt from taxation and cannot be seized for debt, nor can they be mortgaged.

Only such person(s) as name(s) appear on the cemetery records of the Town will be recognized as owners of lots. All burial rights in cemetery lots purchased from the Town shall be considered as real estate at the death of the owner. Proper proof as to the person or persons in whom the title to said lot shall vest shall be required.

The title to a cemetery lot vests in the owner the right to use such lot for any such person(s) as they may choose to admit, provided such admission is free of charge and without compensation, and in accordance with the cemetery rules and regulations.

Lot owners cannot resale or transfer their lots to any person or persons whomsoever, but such unused lot or lots not desired by the owner shall be sold back to the Town of Fort White at a price not to exceed the original purchase price.\*\* Upon such action, the deed for said lot(s) shall be rescinded to the Town so that the Town may be able to resell said lot(s). Any profits from such sale in excess of the original purchase price of lot(s) shall be accrued to the benefit of the Town of Fort White Cemetery Fund Account.

### ***3. Privileges and Restrictions.***

Each lot or lots in the cemetery shall be located and marked by Town staff prior to sale (if requested), but most assuredly before interment. Any markers placed on lot corners shall be set level with the adjacent ground.

The Town reserves the right for its employees and such persons necessary for the performance of normal cemetery operations to enter upon or cross over any lot in the cemetery in the performance of such duties.

The Town shall not be liable for damage whatsoever in the performance of its duties as caretaker, owner or operator of the cemetery.

### ***4. Rules for Visitors***

Visitors are required to use the walks and drives, and are forbidden to trespass on cemetery lots, pick any flowers (wild or cultivated) or injure any shrub, tree or plants, or mar or deface any monument, stone or structure in the cemetery.

### ***5. Interments***

All interments in lots shall be restricted to members of the family, and others whom the owner may care to admit, as provided in paragraph 2, and as herein provided. Permission in writing from a lot owner must accompany all requests for permit to bury persons not members of the immediate family. Such permission shall not be for remuneration. Graves are required to have a minimal of 18" cover of backfill/dirt packed between the top of the vault and the natural level of the ground adjacent to said lot.

No burial will be permitted until a legal burial permit has been presented to the cemetery director. The interment of the bodies of persons who have died of a contagious disease shall be in strict accordance with the rules of the State Board of Health.

The interment of two bodies in one grave will not be allowed, except in the case of mother and infant, or twin children, or two small children buried at the same time. No interment of a body other than that of a human being will be permitted.

Flowers, wreaths, emblems, arrangement, etc... placed at a funeral or memorial service, or placed on graves at other occasions, becoming unsightly or faded, will be removed by Town staff and the Town shall not be responsible for their protection or maintenance. Any of the above mentioned items placed at the side of driveway shall be considered disposables and shall be removed by maintenance personnel.

## ***6. Removals***

Removal of bodies from graves in the cemetery will only be made in accordance with the requirements of the Statutes of the State of Florida and the Rules of the State Board of Health.

Lot owners, or their heirs, desiring graves opened shall secure the necessary disinterment permit from the State and deliver the same to the Cemetery Director.

For sanitary reasons graves will not be reopened for inspection except for official investigations. Cemetery Director shall receive official request before any “reopening, inspection, or disinterment” shall be allowed to occur.

## ***7. Stones, Monumental work and vaults***

The Town reserves the right to designate areas for upright markers as well as areas for non-upright markers. These areas are to be defined by the Cemetery Director and shall be strictly adhered to. The Cemetery Director shall, at his or her discretion, designate certain sections strictly for cremation services/purposes.

All traditional burials are required to install a permanent sealed vault. The fee of \$200.00 shall be required for each lot as a deposit for a permanent identification monument/marker. At such time that permanent markers are installed, this fee shall be refunded to the owner(s). The Town requires that each lot have a permanent marker to identify who is buried in that lot. The permanent marker shall (as a minimum) contain the person's full name, date of birth and date of death. The owner of the cemetery lot must erect a permanent identification marker on lot within one (1) year of interment date to receive a refund of the initial deposit. If no attempt is made to erect such a marker, the Town of Fort White shall use the deposit money for placement of a permanent marker.

(If any group of lots are “fenced” with a raised fence or border above ground level, they shall either be covered with chipped granite gravel or subject to maintenance by the family).

## **8. *Trees, Shrubs and Flowers***

Permission to plant trees or shrubs on lots shall, in all cases, be obtained from the Cemetery Director, and the Town reserves the right to remove any shrub, tree, or vine, or any part there of, which may have become unsightly, dangerous or not in keeping with the landscape design.

Plants or flowers may not be taken out or removed from the cemetery, or cuttings removed from plants, without the permission of the Cemetery Director, or under his or her direction. The observance of this rule is necessary to prevent the theft of plants. Many plants, especially vines, interfere with the proper care of lots and graves, and injure the grass. Such plants will be removed when deemed by the Cemetery Director to be objectionable.

## **9. *Fees, charges and payments***

The payment of all charges shall be made to the Town Clerk in the Clerk's office, where receipts shall be issued for all amounts paid.

The following schedule of fees and charges is in effect and applicable to the Town of Fort White Cemetery Addition:

### Traditional Burial (lot size is 5' x 10')

\$500.00 per lot for a Town of Fort White resident

\$1000.00 per lot for a non-city resident, but a resident of Columbia County

\$1500.00 per lot for any other application

### Cremation Burial (lot size is 5' x 5')

\$300.00 per lot for a Town of Fort White resident

***(immediate family may purchase a 5' x 10' plot at \$500.00 for the burial of two cremains per lot).***

\$600.00 per lot for a non-city resident, but a resident of Columbia County

\$900.00 per lot for any other application

These fees and charges are subject to change at such time as the Town deems necessary.

The Town will maintain the cemetery and plant trees, shrubs etc..therein, according to the plans there of.

At such point and time, should it occur, that an interested party(ies) show a desire to construct a mausoleum, cremain garden, wall or other such structure, the Town of Fort White reserves the right to sell a lot or lots to said party at a negotiated price, provided it is to be constructed in an area designated for such services.

These rules and regulations for the Fort White Cemetery (Addition) were approved by the Town Council of the Town of Fort White and shall upon its approval, be adopted and enforced immediately. The Cemetery Director at the time of this adoption is:  
Zollie E. Hudson.

**Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December 2009.**

\* Persons desiring or needing to purchase a lot(s) and pay for it in installments may do so under the Cemetery Lot Reservation Agreement. Lot(s) must be paid for in full before anyone is to be buried.

\*\*The Town reserves the right to retain an administration fee from any lot(s) returned to Town for resale (\$25.00 per lot).

Adopted on DECEMBER 14, 2009

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Mayor, Town of Fort White

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Town Clerk, Town of Fort White

ATTACHMENT

Plot Application

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Purchaser \_\_\_\_\_  
As on headstone If purchasing for another

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

Email (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Cemetery lot reservation agreement \_\_\_\_\_ Purchase \_\_\_\_\_

Specify number of lots to purchase \_\_\_\_\_

Type of burial: \_\_\_\_\_ Traditional \_\_\_\_\_ Cremain \_\_\_\_\_ Mausoleum

\_\_\_\_\_ Niche (cremain wall) \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Specific Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
examples include: lot next to walkway, lot beside driveway, lot close to or in shade of tree.

*I, \_\_\_\_\_ have read and understand the terms of the rules and regulations of the cemetery addition set forth by the Town of Fort White. By signing this application I agree to submit to the terms of the rules and regulations of the cemetery addition set forth by the Town of Fort White.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date