

**Sellersville Church  
and  
Cemetery Corporation**

P.O. Box 92  
Sellersville, PA 18960

**RULES AND REGULATIONS**

# **Sellersville Church and Cemetery Corporation**

## **Rules and Regulations**

### **History**

The Sellersville Church and Cemetery Corporation (Corporation) is a non-profit private corporation organized to operate a cemetery for the benefit of the members of Saint Michael's Evangelical Lutheran Church and Saint Paul's United Church of Christ, Sellersville, Pa. At some unknown date in the past, members of other churches were accepted for burial which continues to the present.

The Corporation received its charter dated September 13, 1869. It is governed by a Board of Trustees. Each congregation elects a total of three trustees at its annual meeting, one per year, to serve for a three year period.

### **Preamble**

The Sellersville Cemetery is a perpetual care cemetery. Every grave is assured future mowing maintenance and beautification of the cemetery grounds without additional cost or assessment. In a continuing effort to maintain the beauty and tranquility of these sacred places of honor, it is necessary to enforce these regulations regarding what is permissible and that which is not permissible.

1. Perpetual care implies only the cutting of grass, keeping each lot at grade level and in good condition. It does not include repairs of a permanent character or replacement of or maintenance of structures on any lot.
2. No grave sites will be sold to anyone who intends to use them for investment purposes.
3. All full casket burials will require an outer burial container or burial vault.

4. All cremains must be in an urn or an urn vault that meets the minimum standards of a MacKenzie Classic Cultured Marbled urn or an urn vault.
5. The spreading of cremains (ashes) on the ground is not permitted.
6. A total of four burials will be allowed in one grave in the following arrangement: (A) One full casket, plus a baby, plus two separate cremains. (B) One full casket plus three separate cremains. (C) Four separate cremains. With either arrangement, only one monument, plus bronze or granite flat markers as necessary or no more than four bronze or granite flat markers containing names and dates will be allowed. All flat markers shall measure 12 by 24 inches and will be placed at ground level immediately behind the monument, if one exists, otherwise such markers will be placed starting at the head of the grave and facing toward the foot of the grave.
7. Many graves in the cemetery do not have a monument or marker of any kind. This creates problems of locating graves by current relatives or for locating exact sites for new burials. Therefore the Corporation will require two responsible family members to sign a letter prior to burial in which they agree to have a suitable monument or a bronze or granite marker placed on the grave within 18 months after burial. The minimum size of a bronze or granite marker shall measure at least 12 inches by 20 inches. Where a monument or marker has been placed on the grave site in advance of burial, the Corporation will only require the names and addresses of two responsible members for its records.
8. Each grave measures 4 feet by 9 feet. The maximum length for a monument base shall not exceed 36 inches for a single lot, 60 inches for a double lot, and 72 inches for a triple lot. There is no restriction as to the height of a monument.



9. Decorations for graves shall not exceed 15 inches in depth and no longer than the width of the grave. Small plantings are permitted so long as they do not exceed these dimensions. This includes small shrubs kept in trim and not exceeding the height of the monument, otherwise they will be removed without notice. Additional decorations may continue behind the monument for a depth of 12 inches and no longer than the width of the grave.
10. Enclosures such as coping, fencing or other kinds of border markings above grade level is not permitted.
11. The Corporation requires that all government markers provided by the Veterans Administration for veterans shall be adhered to the back of the monument, if one exists on the grave. All other government or flat family markers will be installed at ground level at the head of the grave.
12. In the event a government marker cannot be attached to an existing monument it will be placed directly behind the monument at ground level facing toward the foot of the grave.
13. No monument or marker on any kind will be placed at the foot of the grave.
14. Live and artificial flowers are permitted throughout the cemetery. If improperly maintained they will be removed without notice when they are deemed unsightly.
15. Glass bottles, vases or other similar receptacles are not permitted for use in the cemetery. This does not include ceramic, concrete or stone pots.
16. The Cemetery Board is pleased to have family members, friends and organizations decorate the graves of loved ones and or past members at all times. American flags may remain on graves year round, however if any become tattered, torn or touch the ground in any manner, they will be removed for proper disposal.

17. Fire company flags may remain on graves year round, however if any become tattered, torn, faded or touch the ground they will be removed and disposed of.
18. Flags of other kinds are permitted. They shall not exceed the height of the monument and are subject to the two cleanup dates regarding non-seasonal decorations.
19. Memorial candles typically used by members of the Catholic Church are permitted.
20. The Corporation is not responsible for theft or damage to any personal property, including artifacts, personal effects, etc. placed on or near any grave. Also, if any item placed on a grave that is not deemed a proper or appropriate decoration by the Board, the Corporation may remove such item without notice
21. The Corporation is not responsible for accidents occurring in or on cemetery property or for the destruction of any property due to the elements, acts of God, vandalism or other mischievous or destructive forces. If damage occurs at any time, repairs must be made by the owner of the lot within a 12 month period.
22. A general cleanup of the cemetery of all non-seasonal decorations will be completed twice each year, i. e. before Easter and Christmas as follows:
  - (A) Beginning 30 days before Easter, and
  - (B) Beginning November 1 for Christmas
23. The Corporation will make every effort to have all driveways plowed whenever a snowfall reaches two inches or greater. We ask that no one drive into the cemetery until the driveways are plowed.

24. Snow removal to and around a burial site is the responsibility of the contractor hired by the Funeral Director to open a grave.
25. Foundations for monuments or markers of any kind will not be constructed until after six months of burial. This will allow adequate time for the ground to settle and become firm.
26. Children under 16 years of age are only allowed in the cemetery with adult supervision.
27. The walking or exercising of dogs, except guide dogs, is not permitted in the cemetery.
28. Possession or consumption of illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages within the cemetery is prohibited.
29. Skateboarding, riding of bicycles and/or operating small motorized vehicles in the cemetery is prohibited

Additions, changes or amendments to these rules and regulations may be made at anytime and distribution thereof will be made to all lot owners provided the Corporation has current names and addresses on file.

April 15, 2005