

Tomahawk Cemetery rules and guidelines
Hedgesville, West Virginia

We pray that all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen

The Trustees of the Tomahawk Christian and the Tomahawk Presbyterian Churches have set the following guidelines for the operation of the Tomahawk Cemetery. The Trustees reserve the right to change these rules as required, subject to the approval of the governing body of the respective churches.

Tomahawk Cemetery is a free burial cemetery to residents of the community, who are attending members of the Tomahawk Presbyterian or Tomahawk Christian Church. Attending members of other recognized churches in the Hedgesville / Tomahawk, WV area may be considered by the trustees on a case by case basis. Honorably discharged veterans from the Tomahawk area and their spouse can be buried without meeting any other criteria. The Tomahawk Cemetery is owned sectionally by the Tomahawk Christian and Presbyterian Churches. It is considered a 'lawn cemetery' which means that all graves have flat grassed surfaces and only headstone type or flat plaque memorials are permitted.

To obtain a plot, a family member of the deceased needs to contact a trustee of the cemetery section desired. A permission form (reverse/below) must be signed by at least one of the Trustee's and presented to the Funeral Home Director. Grave plots can only be reserved upon the death of the first member of a family. This reservation will only be valid for the surviving spouse and any dependent children or surviving parents of a dependent child who precedes parents in death. Trustees reserve the right to review, approve or deny all other burial plot requests.

A permanent stone monument with a suitable concrete foundation or plaque should be acquired from a certified cemetery memorial provider. The monument will be placed within two (2) years of a burial. All upright memorials and markers must be placed at the head of the grave in line with other monuments. A \$100 deposit will be required. Payment should be made payable to the Tomahawk Presbyterian Church Treasurer or Tomahawk Christian Church Cemetery Fund prior to burial. This deposit will be refunded (if requested) after placement of the monument. If no permanent marker is placed in said time (2 years), the deposit will be used to purchase and place a modest / respectful marker chosen by the Trustees.

All interments shall be enclosed in a sealed underground vault with the exception of cremations. One regular burial is allowed per plot. The Trustees will approve burial of cremated remains.

Any markers other than headstones can only be placed with the permission of the Trustees and must be ground level. **Headstone** length / base can not exceed the width of the vault on a single grave. A marker with more than one name will be placed in the center of the graves aligned with other graves in that row if possible.

To ease cemetery maintenance, it is requested that vases, urns, planters be part of the memorial on either or both sides or front. Flowers should be placed within 6 inches of the base of the monument in an appropriate container. The use of glass containers is not permissible due to the hazards involved.

Foot stones, corner stones, border stones, curbs, benches, etc. are no longer permitted because they hinder maintenance.

Trustees reserve the right to authorize perpetual care such as mowing, trimming and the removal of faded or dead flowers and any other obstacles to cemetery maintenance when necessary. This is done, for the most part, by non-paid volunteers from the community. The cemetery will be mowed a minimum of five times a year with special attention to the days before Mother's Day, Memorial Day, July 4th and Labor Day. Volunteers are always needed to assist maintaining the grounds. Donations for these services are also greatly appreciated.

Shrubs, trees, bushes, fences, etc. may not be planted on the grave. Any objects hindering mowing will be removed. Flowers may be planted within six inches of a monument, but there is no guarantee they will remain intact due to the effort of trimming around headstones.

Floral arrangements must be removed when they become unsightly. Under the authority of the Trustees, the volunteers maintaining the cemetery reserve the right to decide when floral arrangements should be removed. As a guide, summer decorations should be removed by October 15th and winter decorations should be removed by April 15th.

All persons are welcome to visit the cemetery during daylight hours and are expected to be orderly at all times. Visitors are requested to deposit flowers and other litter in the waste receptacles provided, or to be taken with them. Out of respect, all vehicles should remain on established roadways.

Future meetings of the trustees to be held bi-annually
first Thursday in March and September

Dated: **March 20, 2012**

Trustees of the Tomahawk Christian and
and Tomahawk Presbyterian Churches

Tomahawk Christian Church

304-754-3898

Jim Moore

Denny Hedges

Brooke Hedges

Stan Stevenson

Alvin Whitacre

Tomahawk Presbyterian Church

www.tpcusa.org

304-754-8869

Bob Bartgis

Garry Bock

Frank Stilwell

Obtaining a burial marker for a US military veteran

We encourage descendants of veterans whose sites are not properly marked to apply for one from the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA). The VA furnishes, at no charge to the applicant, a new or replacement headstone or marker for ANY honorably discharged veteran from the Revolutionary War to the present day. The National Cemetery Association burial and memorial web page (<http://www.cem.va.gov>), provides detailed information on who is eligible, what application forms and supporting documentation are required, and describes the types of stones and inscriptions available. The replacement stones are generally delivered to the cemetery, but the cost of placing the marker is the responsibility of the applicant. The Tomahawk Cemetery Trustees or community volunteers can assist setting the stone when it arrives. We make our best effort to honor our veterans with flags. If you are aware of a veteran that has not been recognized, please let us know.

Tomahawk Cemetery Deposit / Receipt form:

Date:

Deceased Name

Person / Address / phone number of person who should receive returned deposit (if desired).

Signed by Tomahawk Cemetery Trustee
