Planning a Service without a Funeral Home

This Department strongly recommends contacting a funeral home for assistance. We do not coordinate or plan services. If a funeral home is not used, all arrangements and details normally handled by the funeral home are assumed by the family.

When the cemetery receives a grave opening order from a family, it is expected all other arrangements have already been made. We will check the lot information and if the day and time is available, we will book your service and quote the total charges that will be due. All checks are made payable to the “Town of Marblehead.” Standard fees associated with the grave opening are as follows:

- Weekday Grave opening for standard cremation opening: $300.00
- Weekday Cremation opening with an urn vault opening: $500.00
- Saturday cremation (between 8:00-12:00): $700.00

Additional fees:
- Deceased is not Marblehead resident: non-resident $200.00
- Interment in a grave that is already occupied: re-use $500.00
- Rental of Chapel (seats approx. 70): chapel $200.00
- Weekday services arriving after 2:00 PM: overtime $100.00
- Services arriving before 2:00 PM and departing after 2:30: overtime $100.00

(Other fees could apply)

This Department will open and close the grave and make sure the area is presentable for whatever service you have planned. We do not provide urn vaults, canopies, chairs or music for services. All services should begin at the scheduled time and last approximately thirty minutes.

For those planning services for a cremation burial without a funeral home, we require payment of the opening and any other charges **before the grave is opened.** The disposition permit or original cremation certificate (which accompanies the ashes from the crematory) is also required. If the original is needed for travel, please forward a copy along with your payment. Drop the original certificate in the office mail slot on the day of the service.

All Marblehead residents are allowed to purchase a gravesite at the time of an emergency. We allow one lot per residence. Once you purchase a lot you will not be allowed to purchase another one.

A single resident will be allowed to purchase a single grave lot. A maximum of two graves will be allowed when there are two taxpaying residents at the same address. If the deceased is a child or live in parent the purchase of one additional grave may be allowed at that time. Each single grave can accommodate one casket burial and two cremations **OR** three cremations. The exception to this is the AM section which is allowed two cremations only.