

Martin D. "Buzz" Rodgers
President

CYPRESS HILL MEMORIAL PARK

Serving The Community Since 1859

James M. Smith
Secretary

March 18, 2020

UPDATE: Cemetery Precautions regarding Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

As we move forward in these challenging times, our main priority is to protect the health of our staff and the community we serve. We will follow our local and state guidelines, as well as the directives from the CDC.

To mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and to comply with the shelter in place order, effective immediately:

Burial Services

- Cypress Hill will continue to provide burial services; however, we will encourage families to consider direct burials and to gather on their own at a future date. We will also encourage families with cremation burials to consider delaying those burials until this situation is more controlled.
- It is strongly recommended that services not exceed 10 individuals, or even smaller numbers if people are not able to keep at least 6 feet apart
- Witnessing the lowering of caskets or urns into the earth or into a crypt or niche are prohibited. All services will conclude with caskets or urns above ground and the lowering and/or placement will take place once the family has left. The only exception to this is for burials at B'nai Israel Cemetery; however, during this time we will eliminate the ceremonial shoveling of dirt onto caskets.
- Chairs and tents will not be provided during this time to emphasize the need for social distancing. Families will need to prepare accordingly and are welcome to bring their own chairs, umbrellas, etc. if they wish to do so. People with mobility issues should prepare for this change or consider not attending if they are not able to stand on their own safely or comfortably.

Office

- Our office will be staffed and ready to assist families remotely via telephone, email or fax. The office will remain locked during business hours and only opened for those who have scheduled appointments for At-Need burials, deliveries, etc.
- If a family is unable to use remote methods to complete any documentation for At-Need services, we will accommodate a controlled visit to the cemetery during our normal operating hours. These appointments may only have 1 – 2 family members meet at the cemetery for signatures. A controlled area will be established to complete the documentation. Any non-urgent requests will be handled remotely or scheduled later when it is safe to do so.
- Payments may be made by credit card over the phone or by check.

Cemetery staff will be discouraged from handshaking and any other unnecessary physical contact. We will continue to monitor this situation as it unfolds and make any necessary adjustments as needed.

Please continue to follow all guidelines to protect yourselves and your loved ones.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Fulton

General Manager

Cypress Hill Memorial Park