Cemetery staff are required, as part of their regular duties, to remove floral and ornamental tributes to ensure the grounds are maintained to a standard that provides a safe and tidy appearance.

Although it is a sensitive task and one that staff gains no satisfaction from performing, the reality is all tributes will wither and weather. In fact all tributes will need to be removed and refreshed at some point. It is an unfortunate task but one that needs to be performed.

Staff will remove all non-conforming items, including breakable containers, ornaments, solar lights, candles, oil burners, money burning cans, withered or faded flowers, rocks, plants and water holding vessels at our discretion.

For those who want to retrieve any of the non conforming items, please contact staff. We reserve the right to dispose of items two weeks after being removed. This policy is written in compliance with the NT Cemeteries Act and Regulations, Local Government Act and Regulations, Workplace Health and Safety Act and Regulations.

Policy Title
Number
Category
Classification
Business Plan Reference



#### **Thorak Regional Cemetery**

95 Deloraine Road Thorak Regional Cemetery PO Box 446 Humpty Doo NT 0836 Contact Person Thorak Cemetery Manager Glen Minaker

Phone: 0889470903 Fax: 0889843204

E-mail: glen.minaker@lsc.nt.gov.au E-mail: council@lsc.nt.gov.au

## **Thorak Regional Cemetery Crematorium and Chapel**

# Flower and Ornament Policy

Keeping our cemetery safe & tidy





### Thorak Regional Cemetery understands the importance of tributes at grave sites.

Thorak Regional Cemetery understands the importance of tributes at grave sites. However, breakable and ornamental items on or around grave sites can be a maintenance hazard or cause injury. In order for our staff to maintain the cemetery grounds to a high standard we have developed this policy to clearly outline what we can all do to maintain a safe, hazard free and tidy cemetery for everyone to enjoy.

- Fresh, natural and artificial flowers are welcomed tributes through-out the year.
- They must be in non-breakable containers; i.e. no glass, ceramics, etc.
- Non-breakable vases are available free from containers located near the bins on the cemetery grounds.
- Visitors are encouraged to remove the plastic wrapping and floral paper from fresh flowers before placing in the vases.





- Visitors are also asked to remove and discard flowers that have passed their fresh look; i.e. dead, withered or faded artificial flowers.
- When placing your flowers do not allow your floral tributes to encroach onto the next grave.
- These items are NOT permitted. Glass
   items, including vases, and any ornaments, photo frames not attached to a
   marker. Rocks, candles, toys, wind toys,
   oil burners, money burning cans, solar
   lights, etc.
  - Picking of flowers or any other plants from the cemetery is prohibited.
  - Planting of plants of any kind in and around a grave space or anywhere within the cemetery grounds is not permitted.
- Grave mounds will be lowered, levelled and planted with lawn three weeks after the burial. All flowers and wreaths adorning the grave will be discarded at the time of levelling.
- Under no circumstance are families permitted to place flowers, markers, rocks, pots or any item to mark or outline a grave site, prohibiting the lawn to regrow.

Please call or speak to staff if you are not sure if your tribute will fit our policy.
Phone 08 89470903

### Birthdays, Anniversaries of death, special occasions, Fathers Day, Mothers Day.

We understand the importance of significant dates that relate to the death of your loved ones. Please advise staff of these dates in advance, allowing us to make temporary exceptions allowing for flowers, or pots of flowers to be left for two weeks in commemoration of the special date. Let us know of your intentions and we will mark the grave accordingly. Please no breakable containers anytime.

