TOWN OF WESTWOOD
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

TODD KORCHIN, *DPW DIRECTOR*
BRENDAN RYAN, *STREETS & GROUNDS SUPERINTENDENT*

JEFFREY BINA, *TOWN ENGINEER*

April 30, 2014

Re: **REVISIONS TO CEMETERY RULES & REGULATIONS**

Dear Lot Owner/Family Member,

You are receiving this letter because you or one of your family members own burial rights to the Westwood Cemeteries. The Department of Public Works and the Cemetery Commission have established revisions to the cemetery rules and regulations. These changes have been approved by the Board of Selectmen and were implemented February 1, 2014. We are utilizing this spring season to educate and notify lot owners and family members of the changes and how they may be affected.

The most important and significant changes to lot owners will be what is allowed at each gravesite. Safety, aesthetics, and neighboring lots being encroached upon by others were all major contributors in having these necessary revisions accepted. Lot owners will ONLY be allowed a planting bed of 18" in front of their upright monument for annuals and perennials. No shrubbery, trees, mounding, borders, mulching, or other decoration will be allowed including to the sides and backs of monuments. No personal items such as hats, shepherds hooks, glassware, and stuffed animals will be allowed. As spring settles in, and families begin to care for lots, we are asking that lots conform to these new regulations. The Cemetery Department will begin these modifications to non-conforming lots as of July 1, 2014.

Thank you for helping our efforts in further enhancing our beautiful cemeteries. We maintain a great deal of pride in the level of service we provide and hope that the community will support us as we move in this direction. These changes will provide a safer tranquil environment for family members and visitors. More importantly these changes will reflect the respect and integrity we give all our community members who we care for in their final resting place.

You can download a copy of the guide book with these changes on the town website at www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/ in the cemetery commission section under the public works tab. We will also have booklets in our office at 50 Carby St. If there are any questions on these changes please contact the cemetery department directly at: 781-320-1037 (office) or dpw@townhall.westwood.ma.us

Regards,

Thomas Aaron
Cemetery Commission Chairman

Brendan Ryan
Highway & Grounds Superintendent