

Wildwood Cemetery News

Dear Members of the Wildwood Cemetery Community,

I hope this finds you all in good health and enjoying the change of season. It's been a spectacular autumn in spite of the summer drought. Progress on the new Maintenance Center has been slower than we had hoped due to supply chain and other issues, but the walls are now finally up and the roof is on! We hope to have a celebratory event sometime in the spring to mark the official opening of the building. Thanks again to those of you who so generously contributed to our fundraising campaign over the past two years.

I encourage you to read Rebecca Fricke's report below to learn more about the projects and initiatives currently underway including the Conlon Memorial Garden plans, grant work and new ways to honor loved ones. Rebecca and grounds supervisor Silas Ball have been working tirelessly on these and myriad other fronts to keep the cemetery functioning smoothly and maintaining the beauty, serenity and majesty of these grounds.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Nordstrom, President of the Board of Trustees

Fall 2022 General Manager's Report

Maintenance Center—Thanks to John Kuhn, Barry Roberts, Silas Ball and your generous donations the new three bay Maintenance Center is rising.



Conlon Memorial Garden

Donors, Jim and Carol Conlon, worked with the landscaping consultants Stephen Jackson and Candace Currie from Garden GIS over the course of the summer to finalize the planting and hardscape features. This fall the seating wall will be built and in the spring of 2023 the plants and trees will be planted. The Memorial Garden will connect our Columbarium with our Boulder Garden and provide a place of respite for people, a healthy habitat for the animals and insects, as well as an area where families can hold memorial services and the cemetery can host programming. We are grateful for the Conlon's generosity.

Grant work

The Wildwood Executive Board is in the process of setting up a **Friends of Wildwood Cemetery 501c3**. In the meantime, we have applied for Town of Amherst CPA funds to put towards the preservation of the Dickinson Farmhouse roof and chimneys. Hopefully by our Spring newsletter we will have good news concerning this project.

Looking for ways to honor your friends and loved ones?

Your annual donations are an important part of helping Wildwood Cemetery operate. Now there are multiple additional ways you can give back to Wildwood Cemetery in honor or memory of loved ones.

Endowment

Make a gift to the **Wildwood Cemetery Endowment**, ensuring the cemetery will have the funds it needs for hundreds of years into the future. Gifts are accepted at any dollar amount. Four percent of the cemetery endowment helps to fund our general operating budget. The general operating budget covers all costs associated with staffing, burial and building maintenance, and road, tree and lawn care. It is absolutely essential that we build our endowment. Please consider leaving Wildwood a bequest in your will or estate plan.

Trees

Support of the **Wildwood Tree Preservation Program** helps ensure generations of family, friends and visitors will enjoy our beautiful old growth trees. Donations will help us maintain our specimen trees, as well as cultivate the next generation of shade and ornamental trees, and include a plaque that will remain in place for the duration of the selected sponsorship period. It offers a way to honor or remember a family member or special person by dedicating a tree as a living tribute. Options will vary depending on the current horticulture plan at the time of tribute. 5 years - \$2500 or 15 years - \$5000.

Pollinator Gardens

Support of the **Wildwood Pollinator Gardens** keeps the plant beds and paths available for all who visit the cemetery.



Please Spread the Word

Donate Books to the Wildwood Library

Don't forget you can donate books, all genres and styles welcome, written by your loved ones and friends who are buried at Wildwood. Visitors and lot owners are intrigued by our growing collection. The bookshelf is symbolic of the talented people we honor here in the cemetery. If you would like to donate a book in honor of someone please contact the cemetery office.

Respectfully submitted by Rebecca Fricke, General Manager