

§ 43-7. Memorial Bench Program. [Added 7-3-2019 by Ord. No. 2019-08]

- A. The Township of Plumsted shall hereby permit memorial benches for friends and family to remember or honor individuals by sponsoring such benches.
- B. "Memorial bench" shall mean a bench as selected and approved at the sole discretion of Plumsted Township, which shall include the bench and a memorial plaque which plaque shall be affixed to such bench and which plaque shall be inscribed with the name(s) of the person(s) selected by the applicant.
- C. The fee for each new memorial bench shall be \$2,200, and the dedication shall be for an initial period of seven years.
- D. Rules and regulations.
 - (1) Anyone wishing to dedicate a memorial bench shall make application to the Township of Plumsted. A completed application shall be reviewed by the Memorial Bench Committee who will forward their recommendation to the Township Committee for approval.
 - (2) Completed applications and all fees must be submitted to the Township of Plumsted. Applications will be reviewed by the Memorial Bench Committee who will meet three times per year in March, June and September. All benches will be dedicated with a plaque and installed within 60 days after acceptance and approval by the Township Committee and the Township's receipt of the memorial bench from the vendor, if applicable.
 - (3) Memorial bench locations shall be selected by the Memorial Bench Committee and approved by the Township Committee.
 - (4) Memorial benches shall be of a size, style and material as solely determined by Plumsted Township. Plaques shall be of a size and style as approved by the Memorial Bench Committee. Plaque inscriptions shall be approved at the sole discretion of the Memorial Bench Committee.
 - (5) Memorial benches shall be installed by Plumsted Township at a location selected by the Memorial Bench Committee giving due consideration to public safety. Benches shall remain in place year-round unless otherwise determined by the Memorial Bench Committee.

- (6) Plumsted Township shall not be responsible for the replacement of benches or plaques that have been destroyed due to vandalism or natural occurrences such as fire or hurricane. Applicants may request the replacement of destroyed memorial benches and or plaques at their own cost and expense. No replacement bench or plaque shall be installed without the express written approval of the Memorial Bench Committee.
- (7) Should a bench be damaged due to vandalism or natural occurrences such as fire or hurricane, the damage will be assessed by the Memorial Bench Committee to determine if it is repairable. If the damage is \$400 or less, the bench will be repaired with the additional monies that will be held in a trust from the initial fee. If a situation arises where the Township Committee feels that a memorial bench no longer serves its purpose, is damaged beyond repair or is a location where it hinders construction, approved community development or hinders public access, the Township Committee reserves the right to relocate or remove the memorial bench.
- (8) Memorial benches shall remain the property of Plumsted Township. Dedications shall be honored for a period of seven years from approval date. At the conclusion of this period, the memorial bench or plaque may be removed by the Township unless, within 180 days from the date of expiration of the full dedication period, a renewal application and the requisite fee of \$400 is paid to Plumsted Township. All renewals shall conform to the rules and regulations as set forth herein for the dedication of an initial memorial bench.