

Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemeteries

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Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:00pm Grounds: 7:00am-Dusk*, Daily

*from November 12th to February 1st, gates may close at 4:00pm. Gates may be closed in any inclement weather.

Policies, Rules and Regulations

The Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemeteries provide a dignified final resting place for veterans and their families. Please help us preserve the dignity and beauty of the cemeteries by observing the following rules and regulations.

- All persons on Cemetery Grounds will conduct themselves in a manner respectful of a hallowed place. Improper behavior will not be tolerated and, at the discretion of cemetery staff, persons violating reasonable standards of behavior will be subject to removal from the Cemetery.
- All vehicles shall respect posted speed limits, be kept to the right side of the roadways, follow the direction of the roadways, and shall not be driven or parked on the lawns or on the Columbarium (Wall) brick area. All drivers are to follow any and all instructions from Cemetery staff.
- Plastic cone vases are available in each burial section. Vases are not to be removed from the Cemetery. Vases
 are, and will remain, the property of the Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery. Only vases provided by
 the Cemetery are allowed.
- Florists are permitted to deliver flowers to a gravesite as long as all boxes, wrapping paper or other packaging material is removed.
- All floral tributes are placed at your own risk. The Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services or Cemetery staff are not responsible for flowers after they have been placed on gravesites or if they are damaged, lost or stolen.
- Cemetery staff will have full discretion to remove floral tributes when they become withered, faded, or otherwise
 unsightly. Weather affects how longs floral tributes remain in good condition. All authorized and unauthorized
 items placed on gravesites become the property of the Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery and will be
 removed and disposed of at the discretion of Cemetery personnel.

The placement of floral items on graves, other than on the day of interment, is subject to the following conditions:

ALLOWED DECORATIONS:

- Fresh cut flowers are permitted at any time—flowers will be removed at the discretion of Cemetery personnel.
 Flowers must be placed in the provided plastic cone vase.
- A potted plant, no larger than 8 inches round, will be permitted on the gravesite 5 days before through 5 days after the following holidays: Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, and Father's Day.
- Memorial Day The Cemetery will place a United States Flag on each gravesite, traditionally, the Wednesday before
 the holiday and will remove the Flag the Wednesday after.
- Veterans' Day <u>Individuals may</u> place United States, POW/MIA or Armed Forces Service Branch flags no larger than 12x18 inches on individual gravesites from November 6th to November 12th. Any flags not picked up by the end of the day on November 12th will be picked up by Cemetery staff.
- Freshly cut green wreath, with one bow, allowed from November 1st through January 15th. Wreaths must be laid on the ground in front of headstones / Wall niches. The bow must not touch the headstone as the dye will discolor the granite. Wreaths are <u>not</u> to be attached in any way to the headstone. You may use a wreath stand (not provided by the Cemetery).