



Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services
Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemeteries

1390 Main Street
Agawam, MA 01001
(413) 821-9500 (413) 821-9839 (FAX)

111 Glenallen Street
Winchendon, MA 01475
(978) 297-9501 (978) 297-4271 (FAX)



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.

Information Sheet

- Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemeteries (MVMC) will abide by all Commonwealth of Massachusetts Regulations (CMR) and Federal Regulations (FR) that govern the operations of veterans' cemeteries.
- **Specific gravesites may not be reserved.** The gravesite is assigned at the time of death and is based on double or single interment. Burial sections are **not** based on military rank, branch of service, religion, or ethnic background.
- At the time of need (when a death has occurred) contact a funeral director. Any removal, transportation and/or cremation must be handled by an authorized individual. The Veterans' Cemetery/Staff does not offer any endorsement or suggestions regarding funeral directors.
- The Veterans' Cemetery does **not** provide caskets, cremation urns or vaults, cremation of decedent, or pay for any funeral costs. The Cemetery Staff is only responsible for the interment process on MVMC grounds.
- Burials and services are held by appointment only, Monday-Friday, except on legal holidays. No private funeral/committal services allowed on Cemetery grounds at **any** time. No receptions after services allowed at the Cemetery.
- Military funeral honors are to be arranged by the funeral director. Taps will be provided by the Cemetery through the sound system.
- The non-denominational Chapel is used for committal service only. The funeral or other service is held at the decedent's place of worship or at the funeral home. It is the responsibility of the funeral director and/or family to provide clergy. Due to safety reasons, **no graveside services allowed.**
- Government concrete liners are preinstalled for full body burials. Double liners will be used for veteran and spouse, with first decedent placed on the bottom of the liner and second decedent placed on the concrete shelf above first decedent.
- In-ground burial of cremated remains must be in an urn that will not deteriorate **OR** must be placed in an urn vault. The funeral director will handle the urn vault ordering for you. The Veterans' Cemetery/Staff does not offer any endorsement or suggestions on cremation vaults. No cardboard boxes allowed for either in-ground cremation or Columbarium Wall inurnments.
- Upright (granite) markers will be provided for in-ground (full casket or cremation) burials, granite niche covers will be engraved for the Columbarium wall. Private markers are **not** allowed to be placed in the Veterans' Cemetery. The Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery staff will handle the ordering of said headstone/niche cover. Headstones/niche covers will **only** be ordered **after** interment. Inscriptions will follow the rules and regulations set forth by the Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery. **No decorations (of any type) may be attached in any way to either the headstone or niche cover.** Please see Cemetery Policies, Rules and Regulations sheet.
- Veteran's information will be on the front of the headstone and spouse's information on the back. If spouse pre-deceases veteran, his/her information will be on the front of the headstone and after the death of the veteran a new headstone will be engraved to place veteran's information on the front and spouse's on back.
- All Veterans' Cemetery policies, procedures, rules and regulations regarding, but not limited to, interment, eligibility, and floral regulations must be strictly followed. **No exceptions will be made.**
- If veteran/spouse/dependent changes his/her address, phone number, marital status, or desire to be interred in the Veterans' Cemetery please notify the Cemetery in writing as soon as possible.
- Cemetery policies, rules and regulations (including floral) are available at the Cemetery office. Flags are not permitted on graves at any other time than those placed by Cemetery personnel. Do **not** drive the wrong way or park on the wrong side of the road.