

## Rules and Regulations

### Hours of Operation:

- Office:** 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday – Friday  
(Closed weekends and State Holidays)
- Grounds:** Sunrise to sunset seven (7) days a week

### Purpose:

- To enable the Cemetery staff to provide maintenance to our grounds in a manner befitting your loved ones and to maintain a military like atmosphere. Your cooperation regarding the following regulations will be greatly appreciated.

### Visitors:

- Visitors are welcome during the hours that the cemetery is open. A golf cart is available to transport handicapped/disabled individuals to graves Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm, excluding federal and state holidays.
- A Locator Kiosk is available to assist visitors with locating respective interment sites for either DVMC Cemetery.
- Please do not park on any grassy areas. Please remain on paved road areas.

### Floral:

1. Funeral flowers, holders, containers, baskets and easels will be removed and disposed of when they become unsightly.
2. Natural cut flowers or artificial flowers may be placed in a permanent vase or cone shaped metal container and are to be placed to the right side of the marker base.
3. Artificial flowers, potted plants, baskets, wreaths and other decorations whose overall dimensions do not exceed 18 inches in length or diameter, may be placed three days prior to Nationally or State recognized holidays. If the family decides to retain any decoration, they should be removed within the seven-day period after the holiday. After seven days, the decoration(s) will be removed. The only exception is when the holiday falls within the mowing season (April 15th through Sept 15th). During this time, all items will be removed unless they are properly contained in an authorized container as described in # 7 below. Floral items or decorations cannot be secured to headstones or markers. Unauthorized items will be removed by cemetery personnel and discarded. It is suggested that artificial arrangements be marked so the donor can later identify if needed.
4. Winter decorations: Blankets, mounds, wreaths, artificial flowers and other winter decorations of a floral nature are permitted beginning on December 1st. All such items will be removed after the 15th of January or as the ground foreman dictates.
5. Balloons, streamers, hanging ornaments, statues, vigil lights, glass objects, commemorative items or plantings of any kind are strictly prohibited on graves, surrounding trees, shrubbery, or benches.
6. The DVMC assumes no responsibility for any floral arrangement and reserves the right to remove any floral arrangement or decoration that does not conform to the standards.
7. The DVMC authorizes a permanent vase that has a removable liner and mounts flush with the ground.
8. Flags may be placed on graves as long as they do not touch the ground. The DVMC will provide flags for Memorial Day and Veterans Day which will be removed after the holiday. Families may display flags for their loved ones at their own expense and are **only** authorized to place the U.S. or service flag of their loved one. The DVMC assumes no responsibility for the wear and tear or replacement of individual flags.
9. The DVMC provides grounds maintenance to each cemetery section on a weekly basis. This includes the removal and disposal of unauthorized grave decorations and faded and unsightly floral items. Cemetery personnel will dispose of any decorations or floral items that have been displaced from the gravesites, due to wind or other factors out of our control.
10. Items removed from graves will be placed in an inconspicuous holding area prior to disposal. Decorative items removed from graves remain the property of the donor but are under the custodianship of the cemetery. If not retrieved by the donor, they are governed by the rules of disposal of state property.

### Flags:

- Public Law 94-344, known as the Federal Flag Code, as it pertains to the etiquette of the Stars and Stripes, indicates that a flag may be placed upon a grave so long as it does not touch the ground. Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery will provide a flag for Memorial Day and Veterans Day observances. However, any family may display a flag for their loved ones at their expense. The Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery assumes no responsibility for the wear and tear of flags. The Cemetery staff will remove flags that do not conform to Public Law 94-344.

### **Pets:**

- Pets are not permitted on the cemetery grounds, **with the exception of K-9 assistance for the visually impaired.**

### **Visitor's Stands Of Conduct:**

In keeping with the honor bestowed on state veterans' cemeteries, it is considered fitting and appropriate that visitors to these hallowed grounds refrain from any conduct or activity that is unbecoming to the final resting place of our nation's heroes. Accordingly, visitors are not authorized to:

- Litter the grounds.
- Move, remove or otherwise alter, cut, break or injure trees, shrubs, grass or other plantings, to include markers.
- Use the cemetery for any form of sports or recreation, to include but not limited to skating, hunting, bicycling, or jogging.
- Use the cemetery as a picnic ground.
- Use the cemetery for public gatherings of a partisan nature.
- Allow pets to run loose.
- Otherwise engage in any other demeaning activity or boisterous action.
- Exceed the posted speed limit.
- Use or transport in alcoholic beverages.
- Bring firearms or explosives of any kind into the cemetery. Authorized military escorts are exempt.
- Park motor vehicles on lawns, unless so directed.
- Hold memorial observances or ceremonies on the cemetery grounds other than those approved by the Commission of Veterans Affairs.
- Solicitation and vending within the DVMC shall not be permitted.
- Sell or offer for sale items on cemetery grounds. No one may display or advertise for future sale any products while on the grounds of the cemetery.