

CEMETERY REGULATIONS

The Louisiana State Veterans Cemeteries are open at a minimum from sunrise to sunset to the public all year long for visiting. The administrative offices are open from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday and closed on weekends and state holidays. In order to assist the cemetery staff in maintaining the appearance of the cemetery in an appropriate manner, we ask that you review and follow cemetery regulations.

Flowers: The Cemetery is not responsible for flowers that are placed at the graves. Flower vases may be removed if there is a need for mowing or weed eating an area. In addition, Cemetery personnel will remove and discard flowers, which have become withered, faded, or otherwise unsightly. All flowers **must** be displayed in the vases provided by the cemetery. Only one vase is allowed per grave as vases are limited. These vases are located in black metal containers in various obvious locations throughout the cemetery.

Artificial Flowers: Artificial flowers (plastic, silk, etc.) are **only permitted** from November through March. All artificial flowers will be removed from April through October for mowing season. Fresh cut flowers may be placed on gravesites at any time. Flowers **must** be displayed in the vases provided by the cemetery and only one vase per grave is allowed.

Unauthorized Decorations: Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs reserves the right to authorize removal of items which are considered to be inconsistent with the dignity of the cemetery. Safety hazards, permanent plantings, statues, saddles, pictures, balloons, vigil lights, shepherd's hooks, grave blankets, flags other than American flags, flag standards, breakable items of any kind, and similar commemorative items are not permitted on graves or attached to markers. Upright metal grave markers (flag holders) are not permitted. Unauthorized items will be removed and disposed of by cemetery personnel. Marking, stamping, adhering, affixing, or engraving anything on a headstone in this cemetery is considered vandalism of government property and is prohibited according to VA regulations 38 CFR 1.218.

Easter and Mother's/Father's Day: Potted Plants will only be permitted on graves 5 days before through 5 days after Easter and Mother's/Father's Day.

Prohibited Activities: No parking on the grass; alcohol; smoking in unauthorized areas; loitering; soliciting; littering; cutting of trees, shrubs, grass, or other plantings; planting of grass or other plants without approval from the cemetery; walking of pets – service dogs allowed for visitation; fishing; hunting; jogging; skating; bicycling; public gatherings of a partisan nature.

Weapons Policy: VA regulations 38 CFR 1.218 prohibits the carrying of firearms (either openly or concealed), explosives or other dangerous or deadly weapons while on cemetery property, except for official purposes, such as military funeral honors.