

# *Warren County Memorial Park*

"Where Beautiful Memories Remain Beautiful"



## *Decorating Regulations & Services*



**Cherished Hearts...  
Cherished Memories**

20050 Route 6

Warren, PA 16365-3655

(814) 723-1540

[www.wcmpark.org](http://www.wcmpark.org)

## *Our Mission Statement*

*To reflect God's love in the atmosphere and appearance of WMPark and through the interaction of our staff with our families and the public.*

*To maintain the highest level of care, maintenance and improvement of the WMPark grounds in order to quietly demonstrate the peace of God and the beauty of nature.*

*To provide support services for our lot owners and their families that are beneficial, meaningful and that can be customized to meet each family's individual preferences.*



We thank you for taking the time to review this information. If you have any suggestions, comments, or concerns, please contact our office @ **814-723-1540** or [info@WCMPark.org](mailto:info@WCMPark.org). Our staff is available to work with you to meet your needs.

This Booklet has been prepared as a reference for the family of:

Garden:

Lot:      Space:



**Mowing Day:**  
**Ten Commandments - Thursdays**  
**Every Other Garden - Fridays**

(Apr. 15 – Nov. 1)

(Memorial Day Weekend: **Every Garden - Thursday**)

The mowing schedule is strictly followed. In hot or excessively wet weather when a weekly mowing is not beneficial for the lawns, we will wait until the next scheduled mowing day.

Please call the office on Thursday or Friday morning to find out if a mowing has been canceled. When we do not mow, bouquets remain in their vases until the next mowing day.

## Winter Season Services November 1 – April 15

Between November 1 and April 15, wreaths (artificial or natural) may be placed at each grave. Wreaths should be on stands that are sufficiently high to be seen above the snow. **No breakable (glass) decorations are permitted.**

**Wreaths** – Artificial wreaths in a variety of sizes and styles are on display at the office after Labor Day. Prices start at \$16 – with a 10% discount for orders received before October 1st. Wreath prices include the use of a wreath stand, plus mounting and placement on your lot.

**Wreath Stands** - Heavy-duty 36”-tall pitchfork-style stands are available for purchase at the office for \$12.75 each, plus tax (\$13.52).

## All-Season Services Memorial Candles

**24-Hour Candles** – are placed at 9 a.m. on your special day, with an acknowledgement sent to the family. The cost is only \$10 plus tax.

**48-Hour Candles** – are placed at 9 am or 4 pm to remember a special day or days. The cost is \$18 plus tax. Extra Days are available at \$6 per additional 24-hour period plus tax.

**Christmas Candles** – Placed Christmas Eve Day, these 48-hour candles burn through the night, through Christmas Day/Night, and are removed December 26<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$25 plus tax (\$26.50).

## *Cherished Hearts* Balloons

Individual mylar balloons (\$4), or balloon bouquets (\$10, \$12.50) can be ordered for placement on the lot to honor your *cherished* loved one. Details and descriptions are included in the Spring mailing each year.



WCMPark is pleased to showcase our *Cherished Hearts, Cherished Memories* logo and programs in this booklet. Every service we provide is intended to honor your *cherished* Loved Ones and to enhance your ability to demonstrate that honor in meaningful ways. In addition to the services highlighted in this booklet, the *Cherished Hearts, Cherished Memories* program includes:

- A *Cherished Heart* remembrance for everyone who attends a committal service at WCMPark
- A *Cherished Hearts* Gift Certificate valid for any of the services in this booklet
- A complementary *Cherished Memories* memorial candle placed on the 3 month and 12 month anniversary of the death
- Each memorial in storage receives an extra, protective *Cherished Memories* clear-coat spray prior to installation.
- Family members receive a *Cherished Hearts* Heritage Discount on cemetery lots purchased within one year of the funeral.
- Special *Cherished Memories* memorial package provides extra personalization options, including nicknames, military service and up to three emblems at no extra cost; special genealogy package for larger memorials; cameo photo options; on-site computer design service, etc.



**Cherished Hearts...  
Cherished Memories**

## Enhanced WCMPark Services

To suit the varied decorating preferences and special requests of our families, decorating programs are available for both the summer and winter seasons. Mailings are sent to our families in March and September. For more details on any of the services listed below, or to receive the bi-annual mailing, please contact the **WCMPark** office.

All of the memorial or gift items available from **WCMPark** or our sister company, **WCMService Co**, including flowers & wreaths, candles, balloons, the *Cherished Memories* photo, bronze & granite items, etc. can also be purchased for use elsewhere. (We also stock replacement candles for outdoor use.)

### Summer Season Services

**April 15 – November 1**

On-Site Transportation – **WCMPark** maintains two **golf carts** that are available for families to use for transport to their gravesite. Call the office to schedule availability.

Silk Floral Bouquets – Priced from \$10 and specially designed for outdoor use and to fit your bronze vase, are on display at the office – or on our website, [www.wcpark.org](http://www.wcpark.org) -- after March 1<sup>st</sup> each year.

Bouquet ‘Blocks’ – Wrapped and labeled hard Styrofoam blocks, sized to fit the vase, are available at the office for \$2 each. As explained in **Decorating Clarifications**, artificial bouquets need to have their **stems tied together** and to be weighted (to prevent them blowing away), and **labeled with the Name and Garden** location. These blocks are the best way we’ve found to accomplish that.

The **WCMPark** grounds showcase:

- ~Over 220 specimen evergreen, deciduous, and flowering trees
- ~More than 1,000 evergreen and flowering shrubs
- ~Hundreds of annuals planted in floral borders and raised planters
- ~Thousands of bulbs and perennials for variety and seasonal color

The master plan includes regular renewal of existing plantings. In fact, every area of the cemetery has been re-landscaped within the last 20 years. We are also delighted to have been a part of an Eagle Scout project that, with the help of the Action Club, placed 22 bluebird houses on the grounds.

Silk Bouquets: Most of our families use artificial flowers. Should you choose to do so, each bouquet should be tightly tied or wrapped to keep the stems together, and should be marked with the **LAST NAME AND GARDEN**. (A Styrofoam block approximately 2”x 2” x 9” fits the vase and is very effective. These can be purchased at the office for \$2, if desired.) Bouquets are removed each week for mowing and are placed on the storage racks at the west side of the Administration Building. It is each family’s responsibility to replace your bouquet anytime **after 3 PM** on your scheduled mowing day, according to your individual preference, unless you have scheduled a **Placement Service** through the office. (see Summer Season Services).

Veteran’s Flags: A flag standard is provided by the County for each veteran interred at **WCMPark**. Veteran’s flags are placed by the **WCMPark** staff for Memorial Day Weekend. They are removed for mowing and replaced on the graves each week through July 4<sup>th</sup> in accordance with state law. Flags may be obtained at the office for other holidays, such as Veterans Day, or may be placed in the Styrofoam block with your bouquet for the summer season.

Wildlife Note: We have a large herd of deer which graze through the Park, sampling the fresh flowers which you place on your lot. They are particularly fond of gladioli, but will eat almost anything that is available. They particularly appreciate that you put them in vases, so they don’t have to bend over!!

## Recommended Memorial Care

Most of you have noticed that bronze ages. We get wrinkles - and bronze gets green! Actually, there isn't much in the physical world that doesn't show the effects of years. In the natural aging process of bronze, the memorial develops a protective *patina* (that 'green' stuff!). Different environmental chemicals and climates greatly vary the rate of aging, but the final result is *patina* - a dense, hard, permanent crust which is, in itself, a protective coating. This is a natural process of bronze and is not preventable.

**Pre-1991 memorials** - For bronze memorials **purchased before 1991**, each memorial had a factory-applied multi-layered lacquer coating to help protect the bronze from the elements (ultra-violet, acid rain, etc.) In order to help protect this finish, **if it has not started to age**, an application of a non-abrasive liquid or paste wax once or twice a year is recommended. Just like the finish on an automobile, this helps to extend the life of the protective lacquer finish, thus delaying the aging of the bronze. Another option is to spray the memorial lightly with an outdoor all-weather spray lacquer once or twice a year. This gives a nice, renewed finish if you have the ability to spray without leaving runs or streaks. Just remember to use a LACQUER, not an acrylic, as acrylic breaks down rapidly and turns the memorial white and leathery within a season (looks like a bronze 'acne'!).

Older memorials that have been exposed to the elements and have started to age cannot be waxed or lacquered because this will highlight the discolored areas and often creates a chalky film. To restore these memorials, chemical refinishing is recommended.

Remember if you are going to wax or spray your memorial, it will need a good 'bath' first, using a non-detergent soap and a soft bristle brush or cloth. It should be completely dry before waxing or spraying, and the temperature should be between 55-75, with an overcast sky, to provide the best results.

**1991 & newer memorials** - Beginning in March, 1991, Matthews Corp. (the world's largest bronze manufacturer) implemented a newly patented heat-set finish, called *Diamond Shield*. The process provides a finish that is several times harder and more durable than a lacquer finish. Memorials that were purchased after that date have the *Diamond Shield* finish. Although they require less maintenance (only occasional washings), the manufacturer has developed a special polish that can be applied once or twice a year to renew the sheen of the bronze. It is **NOT** recommended to use a wax or lacquer on the *Diamond Shield* finish.

**Annual Maintenance** - Depending upon the condition and age of the bronze, our staff can clean and wax your memorial in the fall, at your request. This helps to protect the memorial from the natural aging and discoloration caused by the sun, acid rain, and other elements. Costs (plus tax) are: Companion Memorial \$25 per cleaning (\$26.50)  
Individual Memorial - \$20 per cleaning (\$21.20)  
Infant Memorial - \$20 per cleaning (\$21.20)

**Chemical Refinishing** - Any memorial that has aged can get a 'facelift' - a chemical stripping and refinishing process. In-house refinishing (done by our staff) provides a renewed memorial with a multi-layered lacquer finish. Factory refinishing is also available which provides a *Diamond Shield* finish.

Details on both types of refinishing and memorial maintenance are available by contacting the office. We also recommend that a new wide-bordered concrete base be ordered (at the special half-price discount) at the time of refinishing to put a new 'frame' on your new bronze (see below).

**Replacement Base** - This new reinforced concrete base highlights the memorial in a recessed 'picture frame' design. Available in standard sizes, the base protects the memorial and enhances its appearance on the lawns. **Replacement bases are available for half-price with refinishing services.** Colored concrete bases are also available in Sunset Rose & Slate Gray.

## Clarification of Decorating Procedures

### Why is WCMPark different from other cemeteries?

WCMPark is the only “memorial park” cemetery in Warren County. The concept of a memorial park is to provide a park-like setting rather than a traditional cemetery with its conglomeration of upright monuments. The use of flush bronze memorials enhances the park-like atmosphere.

Families use fresh or silk flowers in bronze vases, which add to the beauty and symmetry of the gardens. The use of flush memorials also eliminates possible emotional pressure to select a larger or more ornate upright monument because of other nearby monuments, as are common in a traditional cemetery setting.

### Why doesn't WCMPark allow planting of flowers or shrubs on the lots?

To protect the park-like environment, all landscaping is based on a master plan. Traditional cemeteries rely on the lot owners to provide whatever flowers or shrubs are planted; however, **what one family likes, another family may think is an eye-sore.**

Shrubs can become overgrown or leggy, often infringing on another's lot. Annuals are often planted for Memorial Day, but are not maintained by the family or cemetery staff and become weed-choked or die from lack of water and attention. That neglect can affect the beauty of surrounding lots.

In an effort to insure that **every** lot reflects the beauty of nature, WCMPark maintains strict regulations for decorating. To further enhance the beauty of each garden, our landscaping staff works diligently to maintain the shrub and floral plantings that grace every garden.

Fresh Flowers – Seasonal mixed bouquets or floral selections of your choice can be ordered through the office.

Placement Service – Adaptable placement scheduling allows for bouquets to be placed on your lot by our staff weekly, on alternate weeks, or for certain special days throughout the summer season. The Placement Service gives families the flexibility to provide floral placement, while WCMPark maintains its mowing schedule, thus assuring the highest standard of maintenance and beauty for the WCMPark grounds.

Hold Tags – We recognize that certain special decorating days (birthdays, anniversaries, etc.) may not coincide with the mowing schedule. In that event, please stop at the office for a **HOLD TAG**. This tag, when placed around the top of your vase, will alert our staff to leave your bouquet in place for that week's mowing. **HOLD TAGS ARE NOT ISSUED FOR MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND.**

Courtesy Vases – Extra Bronze vases with ‘spikes’ are available **at no cost** for your decorating use at any time during the summer season. Advance reservations are suggested for Memorial Day.

Cherished Memories Candles – See All-Season Services, next page.

Cherished Hearts Balloons – See All-Season Services, next page.

For general information on cemeteries or cremation,

please request a copy of our:

- \* Cemetery/Funeral Consumer Guide
- \* Cremation Consumer Guide
- \* Executor/Survivors Guide

# Warren County Memorial Park

"Where Beautiful Memories Remain Beautiful"

## ~~ RULES ~~

### Governing Decoration of Graves

Our Memorial Park is built and managed with the future in mind, as well as the present. You chose our Park because you were assured that, ten years or ten generations from now, wherever you would be, in distant parts or sleeping within these sacred precincts, this Park and every burial estate in it will be kept neat and will remain forever beautiful. To accomplish this gratifying result, your co-operation is sought, and we wish you to understand the practices that will be observed by everyone.

A bronze memorial is used in the memorialization of graves and no stone memorials are permitted. The bronze vase which accompanies the memorial is standard in the Park, and will be used for all decoration. The vase cannot be upset by winds or large bouquets of flowers.

Cut flowers or artificial bouquets, rather than potted plants, are used in decorating graves, because the pots, of whatever design, soon become unsightly, kill the turf and become an increasingly costly nuisance. No unsightly cans, pots, or vases upon neighboring lots will be permitted to distract from the neat appearance of your own estate. No planting of any kind will be permitted in the Park. The Garden plantings are all planned by the Park landscape architect and follow the master plan.

Over Memorial Day, Flags & Lodge or Service emblems may be placed on the graves. All such emblems must be removed by the family prior to the next scheduled mowing day and retained by them for use the following year. Any such decorations left in the Park will be removed by the Park staff. Veterans' Flags will remain on the graves until after July 4<sup>th</sup> in accordance with law.

Between Nov. 1 and Apr. 15, wreaths may be placed at each grave. No breakable (glass) decorations are permitted.

Following an interment, funeral flowers will remain on the grave until wilted, then will be removed and the grave sodded or seeded.

If a thoughtless visitor should offend by permitting pets to run at large in the Park, or by fast driving or careless operation of a car on the Park drives, you will be justified in calling such offenses to the attention of the management.

You are informed of these practices, not in the sense of restriction, but in the confidence that we will receive your hearty cooperation in keeping **WCMPark** a cemetery "**Where Beautiful Memories Remain Beautiful**".

Adopted September 10, 1954

## Timeless *Cherished Memories* Opportunities

### Remembrance Endowment Program

For families who want to ensure that a Loved One's lot will always be decorated or that other services will be provided on an on-going basis, we recommend the "**Remembrance**" Program. An investment sum of your choice is invested into a Certificate of Deposit, and the interest from the fund is used to provide the schedule of services you specify. Any combination of the seasonal services may be included. For more information and a "**Remembrance**" brochure, please contact the office.

### "Living Tribute" Program

Trees and shrubs throughout **WCMPark** may be endowed in memory of your *cherished* family member or friend. A bronze plaque is placed at the foot of the planting.

### "Flags of Freedom" Memorials

Another unique memorial tribute for a *cherished* loved one -- particularly a veteran -- is the endowment of a permanent United States flag display. Available as an annual or a Lifetime tribute, a memorial plaque is placed at the display site to honor your family member or friend.

### Memorial Benches

Engraved granite **memorial benches** are available in a variety of colors and styles as a lasting tribute to your Loved One(s). Design services are available to help you create a uniquely personal display.

### *Cherished Memories* Cameo Portrait

Available in a variety of sizes and display options, your picture can be created in timeless full-color stainless steel for permanent display on a bronze memorial or tribute plaque.

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We hope the information contained herein is helpful.

If you have any questions about  
**Warren County Memorial Park,**  
our Rules & Regulations, or the services  
and benefits available to our families,  
please contact our office.