

Flag Placement Sarasota National Cemetery Saturday, May 25, 2024

Below are Instructions for our Mission at Sarasota. Please review them prior to May 25th!

If you and/or your group registers for Flag Placement, please ask your group to also volunteer for **Flag Removal on June 1st at 0830**. See page 2 of these instructions for additional information on Flag Removal.

07:30 - Instructions for May 25th Flag Placement are as follows:

We will place flags **Rain or Shine**. Dress accordingly, flip/flops are not recommended, grounds will be wet/damp.

1. What to bring:

Water/beverages, a 12" Ruler or 12" paint stick, a 5 or 6" length Screwdriver and a Rubber Mallet to assist with driving the screwdriver into the ground. Do not use the mallet on the flags.

2. Arrival Time, Parking, and Assembly:

Carpooling is necessary!

Enter at East Entrance (by Maintenance Building) and Park at the east end, by the Maintenance Building, the POW Flagpole or the paved areas that are not under construction or near burial sites. **DO NOT** park on any grassy area.

07:30 - Report directly to the POW Flagpole directly west of the Maintenance Building (Look for Budget Rental Moving Truck). You will receive instructions from me and the Section Captains on the correct placement of flags.

3. Flag Placement:

We will be placing approximately 22,000 Flags.

Family members will place their loved one's flag at 7:55am.

Volunteers begin mass placement at 8:00am. Each volunteer will be responsible for correct placement of a minimum of 40 flags.

Flags are placed in front of each Monument, 12" out from center of the front of the Monument and approximately 4" into the ground. I will provide the 12" Marker/Paint Stick. Special Instructions will be provided for the Columbarium.

Once flag is placed, confirm the staff is straight, then say the Veteran/Spouse/Qualified Dependent's name aloud and thank them for their service and their sacrifice. We place a flag at **every monument**.

If you have questions about why we place flags in this manner, please watch the YouTube Video on Flag Placement at Arlington National Cemetery.

Once your assigned Section has been completed, please go to another Section or the Columbarium to assist with placement.

4. Memorial Day Ceremony Saturday, May 2th, 10am.

The annual Memorial Day Ceremony hosted by the SNC Advisory Committee will be held the same morning, Saturday, May 25th at 10am. All Volunteers for flag placement are welcome to attend this ceremony.

Instructions for June 1st Flag Retirement are as follows:

We retire flags **Rain or Shine.**

Dress accordingly, flip/flops are not recommended, grounds will be wet/damp.

Arrive at the Cemetery by 08:30 and enter at the east (second) entrance.

Everyone is to gather at Section 6 for instruction on properly retiring the flags and how to bundle them.

Do not begin removal until I determine how wet/damp flags are – this variation of condition will determine how we will bundle them!

Please bring your own water/beverages, and old towels or rags to wipe the flags and staffs down prior to bundling.

Anyone interested in adopting two totes of flags for drying, inspection and re-bundling of the good/reusable flags, please email me at www.sarasotawreaths.com.

Once again, I am looking forward to this year's Mission and on behalf of our executive board, we are so very appreciative of the support from all of you and our community in assisting with Remembering and Honoring all our Veterans at our National Cemetery this Memorial Day.

All questions regarding Flag Placement at Sarasota should be directed to me personally. I can be reached at 941-448-6299. There is not a “co-chair” for this event.

Thank you again and see you May 25th!

Meshia Richardson Judd, Director & National Secretary
Family & Friends of Sarasota National Cemetery, Inc. – Flags for Fallen Vets
Sarasota National Cemetery
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