

Information for Families Regarding Forest Hills Memorial Gardens Cemetery

Who owns Forest Hills Cemetery?

The corporate entity is Forest Hills Memorial Gardens, Inc. The Resident agent is listed as Alexander Williams; last known addresses are P.O. Box 1830, Clinton 20735 and 12235 Arrow Park Drive, Fort Washington, MD. The Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation lists this as a forfeited entity because of failure to file a personal property return. Alexander Williams is deceased and the heirs of Alexander Williams remain undetermined.

Who maintains the property?

In accordance with the Prince George's County Property Maintenance Code, the County provides minimal maintenance. Family members may also maintain the gravesites of loved ones.

Can I still visit my loved ones there?

Yes, the cemetery is accessible and remains open for visitation by all families who have loved ones buried there.

Can I bury other family members in pre-purchased sites?

No. Burials can no longer be performed at the cemetery. The court issued a cease and desist order regarding burials in 2000. Individuals who have purchased gravesites that have not yet been used will, unfortunately, not be able to use them at this time.

Can I install a memorial or place flowers at my loved one's site?

Flowers can be placed at the gravesites of known loved ones.

Can you tell me if and where my family member is buried at the cemetery?

For some family members, the Department of Environmental Resources can provide you with names and a location number. However, there are very few markers at the cemetery to indicate section locations.

Can I have my loved one removed?

Moving the remains of a family member (disinterment) from Forest Hills Memorial Gardens Cemetery to another cemetery is a voluntary option.

Permission for disinterment and reinterment at another cemetery must be obtained from the State's Attorney's Office in Prince George's County at (301) 952-4352. The State's Attorney's Office requires that a Disinterment Request and Affirmation Form be completed and notarized. Those forms can be obtained in the State's Attorney's Office.

A newspaper notice must be made indicating the fact that a Disinterment is being requested. It must be printed by any Publisher that provides newspaper service in the same area where the remains are currently interred. This notice must be published one time and submitted with the request to the State's Attorney's Office. The newspaper notice has to be 15 days old and must contain the same information listed on the Disinterment Form.

The Prince George's County Health Department also requires a transit permit when human remains are moved from one cemetery to another. The permit can be applied for in the Health Department's Office of Vital Records, which can be reached at (301) 324-2940.

What other resources are available to assist me in locating my loved one?

You can contact the funeral home that provided services to research their records.
You are permitted to walk the grounds to see if you can find a marker for your loved one.
You can seek legal counsel.

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