

Flag Placement Sarasota National Cemetery Saturday, May 28, 2022

Below are Instructions for our Mission at Sarasota. Please review them prior to May 28th!

Parking is LIMITED – PLEASE CARPOOL!

If you and or your group registers for Flag Placement, please ask your group to also volunteer for **Flag Removal on June 4th at 0830**. Please review page 2 of these instructions, then check in with me on May 28th for details, or email/call me.

Instructions for May 28th Flag Placement are as follows:

1. What is Needed From our Volunteers:

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

Please bring your own water/beverages, a 5 or 6" Phillips Screwdriver and a Rubber Mallet or small hammer to assist with driving the Screwdriver ONLY, as the grounds are very hard. We do NOT Hammer Flags into the ground. I will supply the 12" paint sticks for measuring and marking.

The National Cemetery Administration is still under Covid-19 Restrictions. Please wear a mask if you have not been vaccinated for Covid-19. We are Guests on Federal Grounds and we must comply with their Directives and Policies.

- 2. Arrival Time and Parking:** Arrive at the Cemetery by 07:30 and Enter at the Furthest East Entrance. Follow our traffic attendants' instructions with parking in the allotted area by the Maintenance Building. CARPOOLING is necessary as parking space is limited. This mainly applies to our larger sponsorship groups.

Once, parked, report directly to the Flag Pole directly west of the Maintenance Building (Look for Budget Rental Moving Truck. At this time, you will receive instructions from me and the Section Captains on the correct placement of flags. Please follow those instructions. If you do not have an assigned section, please let me know then and I will place you where most needed.

3. Flag Placement:

Family will have first opportunity to place their loved one's flag at 7:55am. Volunteers will begin mass placement at 8:00am. We will be placing approximately 18,200 Flags and this should be successfully completed by everyone by 8:45am.

Each volunteer will be responsible for correct placement of approximately 20 flags. If you want to "partner" with someone, that is fine.

Please assist the Section Captains by maintaining the Section in which you are placing, and assuring that the FRONT of every Monument has a flag properly placed, 12” out from center of the Monument and approximately 4” into the ground, with a straight staff.

- 4. Memorial Day Ceremony** Per the Sarasota National Cemetery Advisory Committee, there will be a brief Memorial Day Service at Patriot Plaza beginning at 10am. All Flag Volunteers are invited to attend.

Instructions for June 4th Flag Retirement are as follows:

We will 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 Furthest East 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 instructions are given and it is determined by me that the Flags are dried enough for removal.

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

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

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 941-448-6299. Avoid calling or emailing Bob Fussner please. He has his hands full with placement at other National Cemeteries. We love you Bob, however we know you are needed in other places.

Thank you again and see you May 28th!

Meshia A. Richardson, Event Director
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Sarasota National Cemetery
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