



Minnesota State
Veterans Cemetery
LITTLE FALLS

Minnesota State
Veterans Cemetery
PRESTON

Minnesota State
Veterans Cemetery
DULUTH

Minnesota
STATE VETERANS CEMETERY



The State of Minnesota, through the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs, operates three State Veterans Cemeteries.

The Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery – Little Falls encompasses 39 acres just north of the city and was opened in June of 1994. The Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery - Preston conducted its first services on Veterans Day in 2015. The 169-acre site was donated to the state by Fillmore County. The Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery - Duluth is located near Duluth, this 104-acre site has more than 15,000 burial sites. These cemeteries include casket gravesites, cremation gravesites, and columbaria for cremated remains.

Burial at these cemeteries is open to all Veterans discharged from active military service under conditions other than dishonorable. Their spouses, minor children, and under certain conditions, unmarried adult children are also eligible for burial. Eligible spouses may be buried even if they predecease the Veteran. Also eligible for burial are members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces, the National Guard, and the Reserve Officer Training Corps who die while on active duty for training or performing service, or who have 20 years of service in reserve components of the Armed Forces creditable for retired pay.

Minnesota's three Veterans Cemeteries complement those provided by the National Cemetery Administration. The National Cemetery Administration provides support to state cemeteries in the form of grants that are used for development, expansion, and/or improvement. The National Cemetery Administration does not provide funding for the operation of state Veterans cemeteries.

Anyone interested in burial at a Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery is encouraged to complete a pre-registration application. Pre-registration establishes the Veteran's eligibility for burial. It does not, however, reserve a gravesite. The cemetery administrative staff assigns gravesites at the time of death. Pre-registration applications are available at the cemetery offices, through your local County Veterans Service Officer or online at MinnesotaVeteran.org/Cem.

Burial Arrangements

A funeral director or the next-of-kin makes burial arrangements for an eligible Veteran, spouse, or dependent. A spouse or dependent is buried based upon the eligibility of the Veteran. Arrangements are made at the time of need by contacting the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery where burial is being requested.

A copy of the Veteran's military discharge document or a DD214 must be provided to establish the Veteran's eligibility. If these documents are not available, the cemetery must be provided with sufficient military information to allow the cemetery to access VA and/or military records to establish eligibility. The cemetery staff will set a tentative date for the committal service pending verification of service and character of discharge, and will notify the applicant when the committal service is scheduled. The proposed date and time will be approved only when the cemetery verifies eligibility and confirms the arrangements.

Committal Services

All committal services should be brief and must start on the hour at the scheduled time. Families who extend their services can greatly affect others who have reserved the following time. All committal services are held in a committal service shelter rather than at the actual gravesite. This ensures the family's safety, provides a fitting location for military honors, and allows our staff to continue cemetery operations. The remains are removed from the committal service shelter for burial following the family's departure and are never left unattended by cemetery staff.

Clergy services and other arrangements are the responsibility of the family or family representative. These arrangements are often coordinated through a funeral director selected by the family.



Casket

A pre-placed graveliner will be provided by the cemetery for all casket burials. Traditional gravesites are available for individuals who choose to purchase a sealed burial vault from their funeral director. Casket gravesites are permanently marked with an upright headstone.

Cremation (In-ground)

In-ground cremation gravesites provide a traditional burial option for cremated remains. In-ground cremation gravesites are permanently marked with an upright headstone.

Cremation (Columbarium)

The columbarium provides an above-ground option for cremated remains. Columbarium niches are permanently marked with a niche cover.

Placement of cremated remains, either in-ground or above-ground, is determined by the next-of-kin.



Floral Policies

Fresh cut flowers may be placed on graves at any time. Temporary containers and water are provided in locations around the main cemetery drive. Floral items will be removed from graves by cemetery personnel as soon as they become faded or unsightly.

Artificial flowers may be placed on graves during periods specified on the Floral Regulation signs located around the main cemetery drive. Plantings, statues, vigil lights, breakable objects of any nature, or any other commemorative items are not permitted on the graves.

“We are very thankful for all the people who were so very kind to us. You made saying goodbye easier. Thank you.”

General Information

What is Provided?

- Gravesite or Columbarium Niche
- Pre-placed Graveliner (Standard Size)
- Headstone/Niche Cover
- Perpetual Care

What is the Cost?

Veteran:

- All burial options are provided to eligible Veterans at no cost.

Spouse/Eligible Dependent*:

- For spouse and eligible dependent burial fee please call 1-888-LinkVet (546-5838) or visit MinnesotaVeteran.org/Cem.

*Fees cannot be prepaid and are subject to change.

Is Pre-Registration Available?

Yes. Pre-Registration ensures your eligibility in advance and eliminates delays in providing military documents to the cemetery. Pre-registration applications are available at the cemetery offices, through your local County Veterans Service Officer or online at MinnesotaVeteran.org/Cem.

How are Committal Services Handled?

Each cemetery can conduct seven committal services per day, Monday – Friday, on a first-come first-served basis.

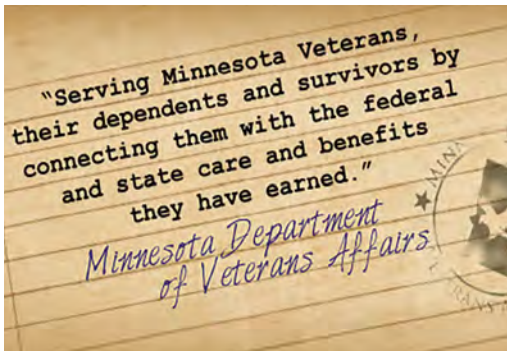
Times: Every hour from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
(3 p.m. is cremation only).

Committal services are limited to 20 minutes.

Military Honors

Cemeteries can arrange for honor guard services through our Memorial Rifle Squad and the Minnesota Military Funeral Honors Program.





Operated and Maintained by

STATE OF MINNESOTA
Department of Veterans Affairs
20 West 12th Street
Saint Paul, MN 55155-2079

Cemetery Hours

Cemetery grounds are open for visitation during daylight hours, seven days per week.
Cemetery offices are open from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Monday – Friday (closed on State holidays).

Cemetery Office Contact Information

Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery – Little Falls

15550 Hwy 115, Little Falls, MN 56345
Phone: (320) 616-2527
Fax: (320) 616-2529
Email: Info.CemLF@state.mn.us

Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery – Preston

715 Highway 52, Preston, MN 55965
Phone: (507) 765-7320
Fax: (507) 765-3793
Email: Info.CemPR@state.mn.us

Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery – Duluth

4777 Hwy 53, Saginaw, MN 55779
Phone: (218) 520-0120
Fax: (218) 729-1343
Email: Info.CemDU@state.mn.us



FOR MORE INFORMATION

MinnesotaVeteran.org/Cem

1 (888) LinkVet (546-5838)

International: +1-651-556-0596

TTY: 1-800-627-3529

