

Delaware Cemetery Board

Mark Christian, Chair

Edward Fielding

Bruce Ennis

Lisa Houston

Sally Williams

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Upcoming Events and Information:

- * Next public meeting of the Delaware Cemetery Board is October 14, 2015, at 10:30 a.m. at the Milford Public Library, 11 SE Front St. A short business meeting will be followed by a presentation by Dr. Lee Anderson on the Riverview Cemetery restoration. **RSVP to Candace Casto at 302-744-4763 or candace.casto@state.de.us.**
- * *Small Cemetery Management* presentation by Joseph Sankovich from 11:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., October 12, 2015, at Dover Downs Hotel and Convention Center. Contact Mark Christian for the registration form at 302-656-3323, or mchrisinde@safe-mail.net.
- * Call 302-744-4763 or e-mail candace.casto@state.de.us for the revised registration and financial assistance application forms with the revision date of December 2014. They are not on the website yet.
- * Help us keep costs down - ensure your current e-mail address is on file. If you do not have an e-mail address, we will continue to send information via U.S. mail.
- * Cemetery registration requirement was changed from two to five years on July 1, 2013. To determine if registration is due, add five years to the first date of the registration period on the certificate (e.g., 10/9/2012 - 10/9/2014; registration would be due 10/9/2017).
- * Application for awards can be turned in every two years.

Questions? Contact Candace Casto, Chief Administrative Officer, Delaware Cemetery Board, Division of Public Health, Health Statistics Center, at 302-744-4763 or candace.casto@state.de.us.

Distressed Cemetery Fund Highlights

The Distressed Cemetery Fund was established in 29 Del. C., c 79A on July 1, 2009 for the maintenance and preservation of any land or structure used or intended to be used for the interment or entombment of human remains and is administered by the Delaware Cemetery Board. To date, the board has awarded 13 cemeteries a total of \$120,169. Four of the thirteen cemeteries received awards twice. Awards were used to repair tombstones and monuments; repair or replace fences, stone walls, and gates; provide landscaping; remove trees and brush; purchase or repair lawn equipment; purchase sheds, topsoil and seeding; provide perimeter surveys and plot plans.

The photos to the right show before and after fencing was replaced at St. Peter's Cemetery in Smyrna.



Frequently Asked Questions

Questions and answers from the April 2015 public meeting:

- * Are cemeteries that are located on State or federal property eligible for Distressed Cemetery Funds? **They may apply but it would need to be explained why the cemetery lacks the funds needed to maintain or restore it.**
- * Can the Distressed Cemetery funds be used for ground penetrating radar (GPR) to locate unmarked graves and/or mapping of a grave if they have the required written vendor quotes for the work? **Yes.**
- * Can a cemetery use all volunteer hours for the required match up to the maximum award of \$10,000? **Yes, but it must be properly documented using an average total per project per year. The board will review each case on an individual basis.**
- * Can a volunteer do the work instead of submitting vendor quotes if they document the work? **Yes, but the volunteer must provide proof of his/her qualifications, and the reason a vendor is not needed, so the board can determine if it is reasonable. The board will review each case on an individual basis.**
- * Can a cemetery use all volunteer



DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
Division of Public Health
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