

May 1, 2024

Hello Fellow Family Researchers,

As our weather is getting nicer all the time, I want to remind you to visit cemeteries where you have family buried and check on the condition of the gravestones.

A few tips for cemetery visits:

*Carry a cemetery kit in your vehicle. In your kit you can include scissors or clippers, a small broom, trash bags, a small soft brush, garden gloves, a spray bottle with water, and a trowel if you have a flower vase attached.

*You may also want to carry bug spray and sunscreen. Check for ticks as soon as possible.

*Observe each gravestone for any cracks or problems.

*Clean off any grass and dirt that has collected over the winter.

*Keep your gravestones clean and decorated.

*Some times that are nice to visit are:

Memorial Day (formerly known as Decoration Day)

Birthdays or anniversaries of your family

Fourth of July for Veterans (decorate with flags or red, white, & blue)

*Make sure that you have a good picture of the gravestone and surrounding cemetery for your Family Tree program and also upload to Find a Grave or Billion Graves. You can also share those pics to Ancestry.com or My Heritage.

Be sure to join us for our next program on May 14, 2024. We will be live at Willard Library and also on Zoom. Our speaker is Eleanor Brinsko. Last month, Eleanor presented "Where Did I Put That, How to Organize Your Genealogical Research." On May 14, she will present "Oh It's Around Here Somewhere: What is hiding in your storage places that can help your genealogical searches."

See you soon!

Kim Van Vorst