

Helpful Tips

1. Don't wait till well after the incident to report it. Time allows memory to fade and criminals to get away. Go to a safe place and report crimes immediately. If what happens was a concern to you, then it is important enough to report it right away.
2. Know how to report a crime. Get a good description of the criminal. Concentrate on what makes them unique and more easily identifiable. *i.e. tattoos, piercings, dyed hair, t-shirt designs, torn or unusual clothing, race, sex and approximate age.*
3. **What happened?**
Be exact. Safety is first. Go to a safe place and call police. Do not put yourself in danger. If you can stay close enough to advise the police dispatcher of where the criminals are and what they are doing.
4. Some stones in the cemetery are leaning because of environmental issues or vandalism. A small child's stone can weigh 50 lbs. and other well over 1,000 lbs. Do not play near those stones or try to right them. Notify the cemetery manager if you come across a concern.
5. There is much wildlife in the cemetery. Always report unusual animal behavior to police. *i.e. aggression, apparent illness,...*

Colorado Springs Police Department
Emergency: 9-1-1
Non-Emergency: (719) 444-7000

Cemetery Main Office: (719) 385-6251



Evergreen Cemetery was established shortly after the town was founded in 1871, and deeded to the City of Colorado Springs in 1875 by city founder, General William Jackson Palmer. As such, 220-acre Evergreen Cemetery enjoys a very unique historical tie to the Colorado Springs community. In 1993, Evergreen was placed on the National Register of Historic Places, only the second cemetery in the state to receive such an honor.

For more information,
contact us at:
1005 Hancock Expressway
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
Phone: (719) 385-6251
Fax: (719) 385-6255
www.springsgov.com/cemeteries

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday: 8 a.m.-Noon

Gate hours for visitation:
April 15-October 15: 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
October 16-April 14: 7 a.m.-6 p.m.

CEMETERY

WATCH PROGRAM

at Evergreen Cemetery



Help Prevent Thefts and Vandalism

R.I.P.

Respect
those who have passes on and their graves

Involve
yourself in watching for and/or reporting crimes you see to management and police

Participate
in adopting a block and/or contact the cemetery staff with information or concerns.

*Here lie the final resting places
of our forefathers and mothers.*

Help Prevent Cemetery Thefts and Vandalism

In the last three years there has been a steady increase, around the country, of thefts from graves. Currently, the trend has been to remove the brass or bronze plaques on veteran's stones. Thieves pry these plaques off the gravestone and then take them to scrap yards to sell. The thieves also remove the veteran medallions for the same reason.

Marble and granite vases are taken in large amounts and resold on Craigslist, yard sales, or garden shops. Statuary, planters, and sconces, whether stone or metal, are being taken to be resold as garden or yard art.

Cast Iron fences and gates are taken for scrap or sold as "salvage" metal to be used in gardens or scrapped. Porcelain portraits attached to stones are pried off and sold on ebay as "antiques".

Perceived gang related activity has increased in Evergreen cemetery making visitors uneasy and feeling unsafe. Graffiti was spray painted on a tree in large letters.

Vandals come into the cemetery and poured fuels and candle waxes on the stones. Some choose to spray paint stones or mark the letters with magic marker. In most cases these materials cannot be removed. Stones are pushed over causing breakage. Mausoleums are broken into and remains are stolen.

With your help, we can stop this threat and keep the final resting places of our forefathers and mothers safe for the future.

Cemetery Watch

This program was started because the more eyes and ears there are in the cemetery, the better the chance that a crime will be spotted or the criminal will hesitate to commit the crime.

Call the Colorado Springs Police Department at (719) 444-7000 to report a crime. Only a witness to a crime can report is accurately. If there is an event that leads you to believe that someone might be injured; there is an imminent threat that exists; or there is a crime in progress - call 9-1-1.

Always contact the cemetery manager to advise them of an issue you have seen. The Cemetery Main Office phone number is (719) 385-6251.

What would be important to report...

- Graffiti
- Vandalism
- Stolen gravesite adornments. i.e. flowers, statues, urns, fencing, ...
- Drug dealing
- Alcohol use
- Gang activity
- Possible Suicidal behavior
- Littering
- Thefts from vehicles
- Threats
- Any suspicious behavior

How can you help?

Adopt-A-Block

One of the easiest thing a person can do is to Adopt-A-Block. Many of these graves have no relatives left or close to care for them.

Things you would do to help are...

Picking-up trash or removing loose branches or small tree limbs.

Weeding and trimming around plots, trellis areas and stones will make it look cared for and tidy.

Taking pictures of the stones in the block and be sharing them with the Evergreen Cemetery Benevolent Society. These pictures are saved and used incase a stone becomes missing or damaged.

Consider contributing your photos as a volunteer for www.findagrave.com. *Find A Grave is a free resource for finding the final resting places of famous folks, friends, and family members.*

Listing stones that are leaning, falling, broken, or missing; then providing this list to the Benevolent Society for future projects. DO NOT attempt to fix these without training and permission from the cemetery manager.

If you are interest in adopting, please contact the Evergreen Benevolent Society at (719) 630-7328.

Want to Learn More?

Th Evergreen Cemetery Benevolent Society offers presentations on:

- Cemetery History
- Proper cleaning and resetting of stones
- How to Photograph Stones
- How to Research the Past and Genealogy
- Gravestone Symbology

For information on any of these presentations, call (719) 630-7328 or go to www.evergreencemeterysociety.com

Tours of the chapel an be coordinated through the Cemetery Main Office; (719) 385-6251 or through the Benevolent Society; (719) 630-7328.

NOTE: For a small fee, group tours can also be coordinated.