



National Preservation Institute

P.O. Box 1702 Alexandria, VA 22313-1702 703.765.0100 info@npi.org www.npi.org

Cemetery Landscapes: A Practical Guide to Care and Maintenance

Seminar Overview

Learn how to protect historic cemetery landscapes, preserve integrity of design, and safeguard tombstones and monuments while pursuing a practical outlook on maintenance and budget concerns. Explore approaches to caring for softscapes, or plantings, and hardscapes, including roads, pathways, and benches. Discuss effective pruning and cutting techniques, and when chemicals and heavy equipment can be safely and productively used. Review the basics of short- and long-term preservation plans.

Agenda

- Nature of Cemeteries
- Typical Historic Plants and Maintenance
- Softscapes
 - Discussion of plantings: pros and cons; costs; short term vs. long term; care issues; historically appropriate:
 - Ground covers
 - Annuals and perennials
 - Shrubs
 - Trees
 - Documentation:
 - Historic
 - Current
 - Replacing Plants:
 - Should you or shouldn't you?
 - When, where, why, how
 - Use of Chemicals:
 - Fertilizers
 - Herbicides
 - Pesticides
- 21st-Century Maintenance
 - Equipment
 - Trimming, pruning, and cutting
 - Soil testing
 - Timing (annual maintenance plan)
 - Budget
- Hardscapes:
 - Irrigation
 - Drainage
 - Lighting
 - Roads and pathways
 - Benches and site features
- Long-Term Planning
 - Budgets
 - Worksheets
 - Resources available