

Gravestone Cleaning Do's & Don'ts

1. "Do no harm" to the cemetery or gravestone you are cleaning. Always leave the area better than you found it. Remove trash/debris.
2. Do not clean a stone without receiving permission from family or caretaker of cemetery before proceeding. Also check your state laws.
3. Survey stone for stability & deterioration issues before cleaning. If it moves, leave it alone. It may not be safe to proceed until it is reset and/or repaired.
4. If there are signs of sugaring, flaking, fractures....do not clean the stone.
5. Never use a power washer on any stone. It is like sandblasting it. Can cause years of surface deterioration immediately. This is especially true for older ones.
6. Do not use bleach or household chemicals on stones. Many are highly alkaline (pH13) and can eat away at the stone from the inside out.
7. Use only soft bristle brushes. Do not "scrub" the stone. Let the D2 Biological Solution do its job. Usually takes several weeks to receive the full benefits of this product.
8. Gently clip/remove vines from stone. Never "yank" them. Their roots could be deep within the stone. Removing them harshly can cause breakage.
9. Never use wire brushes or scrapers on the stone. To remove lichens, use only plastic scrapers or wood craft sticks.
10. Only clean stones that are in dire need of preservation.
11. After cleaning granite stones/monuments, dry with a clean white cloth. Do not use one that has been laundered with fabric softener.
12. Contact a professional if in doubt of any of the above.

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