

Planning Steps for a Memorial Dedication

Obtain guidelines and order forms from the NGC document located at <https://migardenclubs.org/blue-and-gold-star-memorials>.

Organize a committee. Select a chairperson and your site. Choose a marker: Blue Highway; Blue or Gold Memorial; Blue or Gold By-Way. If you choose a By-Way marker, consider dedicating both a Blue and Gold Star marker. Allow *seven* months for your marker to be delivered. Mail the official order application to Kathy Messner with a check payable to Sewah Studios. Open and inspect the marker as soon as it is received.

NGC guidelines provide planning, installation, and dedication suggestions for your event. Supplemental MGC guidelines are located at <https://migardenclubs.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/MGC-Dedication-Guidance-April-2024.pdf>

Plan invitations, program, reception, photos, etc.

If you would like an MGC Board member or the Blue and Gold Star Chair at your dedication, please engage him/her directly.

History

Based on the original Blue Star Flag, introduced during WW I and widely displayed in homes during WW II, the star became a standard symbol for National Garden Clubs' Memorial program in 1945.

The first Memorials paid tribute to the Nation's Armed Forces who served in WW II.

Through the years, the program expanded and today:

- Pays tribute to all men and women who have served, are serving, or will serve in the Armed Forces
- Honors families who have lost a loved one in service to our country

The Memorials are a visible reminder of our love of gardening and our love and support for the Armed Forces of the United States.

For more information contact:
MGC Blue and Gold Star Chair
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Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial Program



Paying tribute to our Nation's Armed Forces



**Sponsored by
National Garden Clubs, Inc. &
Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.**

Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial Benefits

- Honors the service and sacrifices of all veterans: past, present, and future
- Creates a visible and long-lasting tribute to the Armed Forces
- Encourages a love of gardening
- Unites the community and local garden clubs
- Fosters patriotism
- Joins many diverse groups: garden club members, officers of Michigan Garden Clubs, veterans, representatives of local and state government, military officers, Blue and Gold Star mothers and families, scouts, honor guards, bands, vocalists



Markers

Highway Marker (Blue Star Only)

Permitted at rest areas on Michigan's statutorily designated Blue Star Memorial Highway

- Cost \$2,400 (*)
- Overall height is 7'6"
- Post is 7'H, octagonal, made of aluminum (a replacement post costs \$375)
- Marker is approximately 30.5"H x 46"W (the inside plate is 30" x 42"), made of cast aluminum
- Lettering is raised relief; emblem is modeled relief; the star is prismatic

Memorial Marker (Blue and Gold Star)

Permitted on the grounds of National Cemeteries, Veteran Administration Medical Centers and any other appropriate civic location, as approved by MGC Blue and Gold Star Chair

- All details of Highway Marker apply

By-Way Marker (Blue and Gold Star)

Permitted in parks, historical sites and other civic locations

- Cost \$765 (*)
- Plaque is 11.25"H x 20"W
- Lettering is raised relief
- Designed for mounting on masonry or wood

** Prices are in effect until Dec. 31, 2025*



A single garden with both a Blue Star and a Gold Star By-Way marker.

