

Planning Steps for a Memorial Dedication

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

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

NGC guidelines provides planning, installation, and dedication suggestions for your event.

Your club may cover all expenses or be assisted by civic group contributions.

Add your dedication date to the MGC calendar, on the MGC website, as soon as possible to avoid date conflicts.

Plan invitations, program, reception, photos, etc.

If you would like an MGC Board member present at your dedication, please engage him/her directly.

History

Based on the original Blue Star flag displayed in family homes during WWII, the star became a standard symbol for the National Garden Clubs Memorial program in 1945. Originally, the Memorials were to pay tribute to our Veterans that defended our country during the war.

Today the program has expanded to include all men and women who had served, were serving, or would serve in the armed services of the United States.

Memorial Markers and By-Way markers were added to the program, to be used at locations such as National cemeteries, parks, veteran's facilities, and gardens.

In addition, a Gold Star Marker was added to the program in 2015 to honor families who have lost a loved one in service to our country.

These markers are a visible reminder of our love of gardening and our love and support for the Armed Forces of the USA.

For more information contact:
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Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial Markers



A MICHIGAN GARDEN CLUB PROGRAM THAT PAYS TRIBUTE TO OUR ARMED FORCES



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

Blue 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, Michigan Garden Club officers, veterans' groups, local and state governmental representatives, military officers, scouts, honor guards, bands, singers



Markers

There are three types of markers: Memorial, Highway and By-Way.

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 the MI Blue and Gold Star Chair

- Cost \$1995 (*)
- Overall height is 7'6"
- The post is 7' high, is octagonal and made of aluminum
- The marker is approximately 41" high by 45" wide (the inside plate is 30"x42"), and is made of cast aluminum
- Lettering is raised relief; emblem is modeled relief; the star is prismatic

Highway Marker (Blue Star Only)

Permitted on highways and at highway rest areas

- All details of Memorial Marker apply

By-Way Marker (Blue and Gold Star)

Permitted in parks, historical sites and other civic locations

- Cost \$665 (*)
- Plaque is 12" high by 20" wide
- Designed for mounting on masonry or wood

* **Prices are in effect until May 1, 2024**



Example of a Blue and Gold Star By-Way Marker in a single garden.



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