Wreaths Across America Initiative Frequently Asked Questions

This document covers frequently asked questions related to the Wreaths Across America initiative and how chapters/clubs can participate.

Wreaths Across America Initiative

Who is Wreaths Across America?

Wreaths Across America is a nonprofit organization established in 2007 by wreath producer Morrill Worcester, assisted by veterans and truckers. Its primary activity is distributing wreaths for placement on veterans' graves in military cemeteries.

Why is Modern Woodmen partnering with Wreaths Across America?

Modern Woodmen chose this partnership to create meaningful member experiences while powerfully connecting Modern Woodmen's fraternal spirit that resonates with members locally and nationally.

How is Modern Woodmen getting involved in this initiative?

Modern Woodmen is sponsoring wreaths at 80 cemeteries across the country and hosting a fundraiser to support wreaths for Arlington National Cemetery. Every wreath purchased will be matched up to 5,883 wreaths.

Together, Modern Woodmen and its members expect to sponsor between 30,000 and 40,000 wreaths this year. As an organization, Modern Woodmen committed \$500,000 to support Wreaths Across America.

How is this initiative being funded?

This initiative is being funded by Modern Woodmen's newly created Frontier Fund. The Frontier Fund was launched in 2025 to support new and additional fraternal volunteer activities and programs locally and across the country.

How were the 80 cemeteries chosen?

Modern Woodmen worked closely with Wreaths Across America to determine the cemeteries that have a need for wreaths and volunteers to lay them.

The final selections were made based on where Modern Woodmen members are located, which will provide many opportunities for members to take part.

When is this initiative taking place?

Wreaths Across America day is typically observed on the second Saturday in December. This year, Wreaths Across America day is Saturday, December 13, 2025.

Select locations may hold their programming on a different date. The date and time for the ceremony and wreath laying may be found on the cemetery's webpage at www.wreathsacrossamerica.org

Chapter and Club Involvement

Is my chapter or club required to participate?

Participation is not required but encouraged. Chapter and club engagement provide additional opportunities for members to be informed about the initiative and how to get involved.

Why is my chapter requesting this project as a social activity?

Given the flexibility of social activity content, social activities are the most appropriate choice for chapter projects, particularly because they allow for postcard invitations.

Youth clubs don't have social activities, so how can they get involved?

Youth service clubs are welcome to request the activity as a service project.

Will my chapter/club receive credit for premier status?

Yes! If your chapter needs premier credit for a social activity (or service project for a youth club) and the activity is requested and reported in imakeanimpact.org, premier credit will be given.

Leader compensation will also be paid to the leader if the chapter or club has not reached its 12-activity maximum.

Does my chapter or club need to spend any money for this event?

No. Wreaths for the cemeteries were purchased by Modern Woodmen; there is no need for the chapter or club to spend any funds.

If your chapter/club wants to make a donation and there is currently funding to do so, a donation can be made

Can I take photos at the event?

We recommend speaking with the Location Coordinator (appointed by Wreaths Across America) at the cemetery before taking any photos. Some cemeteries have strict policies regarding photos/media.

If you're able to take photos, we'd love to see them! Photos may be emailed to Fraternal@modern-woodmen.org.

Can I set up a Modern Woodmen table, banner, or tent at the cemetery?

No. Modern Woodmen's intention to participate in this initiative is to further Wreaths Across America's mission to *Remember, Honor, and Teach* while also incorporating Modern Woodmen's fraternal spirit. Modern Woodmen should not engage in advertising or promotional displays in any way during the project.

Can I wear Modern Woodmen apparel?

Yes! Modern Woodmen members and guests are encouraged to wear Modern Woodmen apparel. T-shirts may be purchased in the supplies area of www.imakeanimpact.org. (Limits apply, reimbursement not provided.)

Can our chapter or club go to any cemetery or only the sponsored site near us?

Chapters and clubs are highly encouraged to join with the sponsored cemetery closest to them; however, we understand that may not be possible for everyone.

Wreaths Across America partners with over 5,000 cemeteries nationwide. You are welcome to search their website for another partner location near you at www.wreathsacrossamerica.org

What if Wreaths Across America does not have a partnership cemetery near us?

Your chapter or club is welcome to host its own project (not associated with Wreaths Across America) at a local cemetery. The chapter or club would be responsible for working directly with the cemetery and would also be responsible for purchasing its own decorations (wreaths, flags, etc.) Service project funds may be used for this purpose, if available.

What other resources are available?

Social Activity Request Guide

A step-by-step guide for how the social activity request should be submitted. The document is split into two sections:

- 1. Hosting at a Modern Woodmen sponsored cemetery.
- 2. Hosting at a Wreaths Across America cemetery not sponsored by Modern Woodmen.

Wreaths Across America Volunteer Registration

A step-by-step guide to assist members and guests on registering as a volunteer with Wreaths Across America. The document is split into two sections:

- 1. Volunteering at a Modern Woodmen sponsored cemetery.
- 2. Volunteering at a Wreaths Across America cemetery not sponsored by Modern Woodmen

Full list of Modern Woodmen sponsored sites

The list of the 80 Modern Woodmen sponsored cemeteries.

The documents listed above may be found on the Wreaths Across America page of the Training & Resources section of imakeanimpact.org.

Want to know more about Wreaths Across America? Visit www.wreathsacrossamerica.org

Have a question that wasn't covered above? Contact the Fraternal Department at <u>Fraternal@modern-woodmen.org</u> or 800-322-9805.