How to Clean an Ohio Historical Marker

National Historic Marker Day is the last Friday of April! For full details see the Pomeroy Foundation website and cleaning guides. https://www.wgpfoundation.org

An annual cleaning can greatly increase the beauty and longevity of an Ohio Historical Marker. Watch for signs of fungal growth (especially when planted under trees), overgrown shrubbery, dust, and road salt.

**GATHER YOUR SUPPLIES**

- Dish Soap
- Water
- Bucket
- Sponge
- Non-metal soft scrub brush
- Soft toothbrush
- Gloves
- Step Ladder
- Portable Spray Washer or more water in jugs or buckets
- Yard Waste Bags
- Camera
- Step Ladder
- Portable Spray Washer or more water in jugs or buckets
- Clippers
- Gloves
- Rakes
- Yard Waste Bags
- Camera
- Step Ladder
- Portable Spray Washer or more water in jugs or buckets
- Clippers
- Gloves
- Rakes
- Yard Waste Bags
- Camera

- Upon arrival take a “before” photo of the marker.
- If the marker shows significant damage or structural issues be sure to alert the Ohio Historical Markers program using the “Report A Problem” form on Remarkable Ohio https://remarkableohio.org/
- Begin by rinsing marker with clear water. Assess the condition of the marker.
- Using a mixture of soap and water, wet your sponge or non-metal soft scrub brush and gently clean the marker. Be sure to start at the top and work your way down and over the marker cap. Use your soft toothbrush to clean details around lettering, logos, and edging.
- Rinse soap with clear water until all residue is gone.
- Don’t forget to give the post a good wash too!
- If landscaping around marker is in need, weed, rake, clip down overgrown shrubs. Remove yard waste and dispose as required by your region.
- Don’t forget to take an “after” photo and include everyone in a marker selfie!
- Share photos on social media: #ohiohistoricalmarkers and #NationalHistoricMarkerDay

**Before Cleaning**

**After Cleaning**

[Image of a historical marker before and after cleaning]