



Coachella Valley Public Cemetery District

INCLEMENT WEATHER AND EMERGENCY CLOSING POLICY

The Coachella Valley Public Cemetery District (“District”) will use the following guidelines and procedures for inclement weather to safeguard cemetery visitors and staff. The District retains the right to cancel or curtail scheduled services and cemetery access due to weather conditions. Information from the National Weather Service (“NWS”) will be used to determine required actions.

High Wind

The NWS issues three tiers of warnings for high wind, listed below along with NWS recommended actions:

High Wind Warning: Take Action! Sustained, strong winds with even stronger gusts are happening. Seek shelter. If you are driving, keep both hands on the wheels and slow down.

High Wind Watch: Be Prepared! Sustained, strong winds are possible. Secure loose outdoor items and adjust plans as necessary so you're not caught outside.

Wind Advisory: Take Action! Strong winds are occurring but are not so strong as to warrant a High Wind Warning. Objects that are outdoors should be secured and caution should be taken if driving.

The District will take the following actions based on NWS Wind Warnings:

High Wind Warning: At the discretion of District management, scheduled services may be cancelled, and the cemetery and District offices closed to public access while the High Wind Warning is in effect.

High Wind Watch: At the discretion of District management, security may restrict the use of umbrellas and other unsecured shade structures. Cemetery mobile shade structures may not be available for use during services. Services may be moved away from large trees or other overhead dangers.

Wind Advisory: No action by the District, but visitors are encouraged to exercise caution while on grounds and avoid overhead dangers and use of unsecured shade objects such as umbrellas.

Thunderstorm Warning

The NWS issues two tiers of warnings for thunderstorms, listed below along with NWS recommended actions:

Severe Thunderstorm Warning: Take Action! A Severe Thunderstorm Warning is issued when severe thunderstorms is happening or is imminent in the warning area. Severe thunderstorms have wind 58 mph or higher and/or hail 1 inch or larger. Seek shelter inside a sturdy building, away from windows.

Severe Thunderstorm Watch: Be Prepared! A Severe Thunderstorm Watch is issued when severe thunderstorms are possible in and near the watch area. Winds 58 mph or higher and/or hail 1 inch or larger are possible in a severe thunderstorm. Secure items outdoors that may blow around in high winds. Stay informed and be ready to take action.

The District will take the following actions based on NWS Thunderstorm Warnings:

Severe Thunderstorm Warning: At the discretion of District management, scheduled services may be cancelled, and the cemetery and District offices closed to public access while the Severe Thunderstorm Warning is in effect.

Severe Thunderstorm Watch: No action by the District, but visitors are encouraged to exercise caution while on grounds and avoid overhead dangers and use of unsecured shade objects such as umbrellas.

Additional Inclement Weather Warnings

The NWS may issue other inclement weather warnings, to include tornado, dust storm, hale, lightening, flooding, or other forms of potentially dangerous weather patterns. District management is authorized to close the cemetery and District offices to public access based on information supplied by the NWS or based on visual evidence of the existence of dangerous weather, when necessary to protect life and property.

Additional Emergency Closures

District management may close, restrict, or modify access to the cemetery and District offices for conditions that pose a danger to life and property. Examples of situations that may warrant closures include:

- Credible threats of violence or the imminent or active existence of violence.
- Structural damage as the result of earthquake(s) that render the cemetery or District buildings unsuitable for public access.
- Imminent threat from active fires.
- States of emergency issued by public health organizations.

This list is not intended to be all inclusive. District management is instructed to follow the direction of local, county, state and federal authorities during times of crises and are empowered to take all legal actions necessary to protect life and property.

Notice of Closure or Restricted Access & Reopening

Notice of closure or restricted access, as well as reopening, will be posted on:

- District website – CVPCD.org
- Facebook
- The front of the cemetery
- District offices

Rescheduling of Cancelled Services

To mitigate hardship on families resulting from cancellation of services, District management is authorized to use mandatory overtime and additional service times as needed to reschedule services as quickly and efficiently as possible.