

Property at a glance

Location: Baltimore, MD

Staff: The Brickman Group, Ltd.

Category: Cemetery or Memorial Site

Total budget: \$81,300

Year site built: 1896

Acres of turf: 208

Acres of woody ornamentals: 5

Acres of display beds: 1,200 sq. ft.

Total paved area: 3 miles

Total man-hours/week: 120

Maintenance challenges

- ▶ Sunken areas/undulating turf
- ▶ Over 40,000 monuments
- ▶ Looking fresh for holidays

Project checklist

Completed in last two years:

- ▶ Installation of flower beds

On the job

- ▶ 1 full-time staff, 5 seasonal employees, 1 licensed pesticide applicator

Druid Ridge Cemetery

2001 PGMS Grand Award Winner for Cemetery or Memorial Site

Talk about the ultimate obstacle course for a landscaper. Can you imagine having to twist and turn a walk-behind between thousands of headstones, trying to avoid damaging them but at the same time trying to be fast and efficient? Then, of course, someone's got to trim around each one of those headstones.

The six-man crew of The Brickman Group that takes care of Druid Ridge Cemetery in Baltimore, MD, doesn't have to imagine those horrors. They do those chores every week in striving to provide a quality final resting place for the deceased.

Because they work at a cemetery, the crew has to work around and be respectful of ongoing funeral services, which number about 600 during a typical year. Even with the most careful herbicide



Mowing the entire 208 acres of Druid Ridge Cemetery in two days takes a unified and dedicated effort.

treatment, some hand weeding is necessary. Aging gravesites undergo sub-surface collapsing, which necessitates restoration of grading and turf replacement. And there are plenty of trees such as weeping cherries and purple leaf beeches to prune and elevate branches for mowing and visitor safety.

PGMS
Landscape
MANAGEMENT

Editors' note: *Landscape Management* is the exclusive sponsor of the Green Star Professional Grounds Management Awards for outstanding management of residential, commercial and institutional landscapes. The 2002 winners will be named at the annual meeting of the Professional Grounds Management Society in November. For more information on the 2001 Awards, contact PGMS at:

720 Light St. • Baltimore, MD 21230 • Phone: 410/223-2861. Web-site: www.pgms.org

The six-man crew of The Brickman Group strives to make Druid Ridge Cemetery a quality final resting place for the deceased.



The recent installation of flower beds has perked up the cemetery, but of course has also added more duties such as deadheading to the crew's plate.

