

**Department of Veterans Affairs**  
**National Cemetery Administration**

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## **Sarasota National Cemetery**

9810 State Route 72  
Sarasota, FL 34241

- The new 295-acre national cemetery in the Sarasota area will serve veterans' needs for the next 50 years. The cemetery is located in Sarasota County along State Route 72 and approximately four miles east of Interstate 75.
- VA prepared an Environmental Assessment for the Sarasota National Cemetery site in December 2004. In April 2007, the Department of Veterans Affairs purchased the site from private citizens and has awarded a contract to Miller Legg & Associates of Winter Park, Fla., to design the new cemetery.
- Construction of Phase I, which will consist of nearly 60-acres, will include facilities necessary to maintain, operate, and provide burials for approximately ten years. When this phase of construction is complete the interment areas will provide for nearly 18,200 full casket gravesites, including 15,200 pre-placed crypts, 500 in-ground cremains and approximately 7,000 columbarium niches. The new cemetery will also include an administration and public information center complex with an electronic gravesite locator and public restrooms, a maintenance facility, a cemetery entrance area, a flag assembly area and a memorial walkway and a donations area, as well as two committal shelters that will use energy-saving solar panels. Other infrastructure design elements include roadways, landscaping, utilities, and irrigation.
- This new cemetery to serve veterans in the southeastern Florida area will be the sixth national cemetery in Florida. Florida's other five national cemeteries are: Barrancas, St. Augustine, Florida, South Florida and Bay Pines. Another national cemetery is currently being developed in Jacksonville.
- For more information regarding the new Sarasota area cemetery, call (941) 861-9840.
- More information about VA's National Cemetery Administration is available on its website, [www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov).