

[Print Page](#)

---

## EP Veterans Memorial plans move forward

**BY LYN JERDE - SUN NEWSPAPERS**

(Created: Wednesday, September 5, 2007 9:49 PM CDT)

---

With about one-third of the cost of the Eden Prairie Veterans Memorial already raised, planners of the landmark in Purgatory Park have set up two fundraisers.

A five-kilometer run/walk will be held Saturday, Sept. 15, with profits from the event going toward the memorial that will be designed to honor military veterans.

And, a \$250 contribution pays for the posting of a veteran's name posted on a bronze plaque at the memorial's entrance.

John Mallo, an Eden Prairie Vietnam veteran who has spearheaded the project, said the \$100,000 raised so far, for a project estimated to cost \$300,000, is not enough to start groundbreaking yet.

But, on Veterans Day - Sunday, Nov. 11 - the flags of the United States and Minnesota, and the black prisoner of war flag, will be raised at three flagpoles that will mark the memorial's site, on the shore of the unnamed body of water in Purgatory Park, 13001 Technology Drive.

"This will let the public know the location of the memorial," said Bob Grant, a member of the planning committee.

The proposed design of the memorial is illustrated on the brochures for both the 5K run/walk and the bronze plaques with veterans' names.

It consists mainly of two circles, one surrounding a sculpture symbolizing war, the other surrounding a sculpture symbolizing peace. Those sculptures will be commissioned later.

The memorial also includes six pillars, representing six branches of service - Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines.

The bronze plaques will be posted at an entryway, with 60 names on each plaque.

Grant said men and women named on the plaque need not have ties to Eden Prairie, and they need not have fought in a war. All that is required is that they have served in the military at some point in their lives.

A \$250 contribution is needed for each name listed on the plaque. The committee can honor requests that certain names be listed together on the same plaque.

The cost for listing a name will go up to \$300 after Dec. 31.

Brochures for the plaques are available at several places in Eden Prairie, including the Eden Prairie City Center, 8080 Mitchell Road. Information also is available online at [www.epveteransmemorial.org](http://www.epveteransmemorial.org).

Mallo said the committee planning the memorial decided to utilize a plaque, rather than selling paving stones engraved with names, because the names on the plaque would endure longer.

"I think it's classier, too," Grant added. "It won't be walked on, and it won't be worn out."

5K walk/run details

Here are the details of the five-kilometer walk/run to benefit the Eden Prairie Veterans Memorial:

When: Saturday, Sept. 15.

What time: Day-of-event registrations will be taken from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. The run will start at 9 a.m., and the walk will begin at 9:10 a.m.

Where: Purgatory Creek Park, 13001 Technology Drive.

Entry fees: \$20 per person before the race, \$25 per person the day of the race. Fees include a T-shirt.

Where to find registration forms: Forms are available at the Eden Prairie City Center, 8080 Mitchell Road. Online registration also is available at [www.runningroom.com](http://www.runningroom.com)

Where to return completed paper registration forms: Completed forms, with checks for entry fees made to "Eden Prairie Foundation c/o Eden Prairie Veterans Memorial," can be sent to Race Coordinator Edwin Holt, 17200 Park Circle, Eden Prairie, MN 55346.

Where to pick up race packets: Race packets for participants are available from noon to 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 14 at The Running Room, 2801 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, phone 612-872-2981. Or, packets can be picked up at the race site before the race.

Information: [www.runningroom.com](http://www.runningroom.com) or [www.raceberryjam.com](http://www.raceberryjam.com).

Veterans' video planned

A DVD titled "Veterans of Eden Prairie" is in the planning stages, and planners want to hear from local veterans willing to share their stories and perspectives.

Plans call for filming the documentary in September and October, then releasing the finished version Veterans Day, Nov. 11.

The committee planning the Eden Prairie Veterans Memorial is working with the Eden Prairie Historical Society and the city on the project, which is not a fundraiser for the memorial.

Anyone interested in participating may call John Mallo at 952-937-9309.

Comment on this story on our website, [www.mnsun.com](http://www.mnsun.com).

---

This site and its contents Copyright © 2007. Sun Newspapers  
- Main Office: 952-829-0797 [suninfo@acnpapers.com](mailto:suninfo@acnpapers.com) -

