

Cleaning Granite Monuments

Always try to clean your stone on a cloudy day or while in the shade. Make sure you have plenty of water to wet, clean and rinse and a fiber brush, a flat razor blade and a small pocket knife.

Prepare Cleaning Solution: Always start with the weakest ingredients first ~ Never Mix any of the following cleaning options ~ Allow stone to completely dry before using another cleaning option ~ Follow all precautions on product containers ~ Always mix in a plastic container (metal may transfer rust to your stone), put water in container first and then add acid ~ Using rain or well water will help the cleaning solution to be more effective.

Option #1 ~ Equal parts Warm Water and Vinegar

Option #2 ~ Equal parts Warm Water and Bleach

Option #3 ~ Equal parts Warm Water and Ammonium

Option #4 ~ 15 oz Ammonium Bi fluoride, 1oz Oxalic Acid, 1 gallon Cold Water (Oxalic acid is a white crystalline powder commonly called wood bleach and can be bought at local hardware or supply stores.)

Use the flat razor blade to scrape polished areas of stone to rid them of hard water stains and/or moss build up. Use the small pocket knife to pick out any large bits of moss in deep carved areas, being very careful not to scratch the polished surfaces.

Wet the stone completely with clear cold water.

With Cleaning Solution start on the bottom of the stone and work upward to avoid streaks. Scrub small areas at a time making sure no parts of the stone are allowed to dry. (This can discolor your stone). Also, realize that rough areas of the stone may need the cleaning solution to soak longer.

When all the areas of the stone have been cleaned, rinse very well with lots of clear water. If using Option #4 as your cleaning solution, you should use bicarbonate of soda with water as a rinse to neutralize the acid.

Allow your stone to dry completely. If you are not happy with the results, repeat all cleaning steps, (possibly use one of the stronger cleaning options).

Can also use "Simple Green" available at hardware stores. Spray on, wait a couple minutes, then scrub with a soft brush (old toothbrush), rinse, rinse and rinse.

Instructions provided by La Crosse Monument Company.