



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
C&O Canal National Historical Park  
142 W Potomac Street  
Williamsport, Maryland 21795

IN REPLY REFER TO:

10.B (Management)

Dear Interested Party:

This letter is in regard to scattering ashes or cremains within Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park boundaries. The conditions pertaining to this activity are outlined in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 2.62 (b), which states: "The scattering of human ashes from cremation is prohibited, except pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit, or in designated areas according to conditions which may be established by the Superintendent."

In Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park, human ashes may be distributed in undeveloped areas of the park that are at a minimum, fifty feet from any developed location such as a road, towpath, hiking trail, building, parking lot, campground, etc.

Ashes from cremated human remains must be scattered in a manner so as to disperse their identity. No teeth, bone fragments or remnants recognizable as human cremains shall be scattered. Ashes from cremated remains are prohibited in any area normally closed to the public and from being placed within fifty feet of the Potomac River, stream or other natural body of water.

The use of drones to scatter ashes is prohibited along with the placement of any monument or marker recognizing the scattering of cremated human remains.

Please notify the Park Permits Office by phone, (301) 745-5815, or e-mail, [copermitsoffice@nps.gov](mailto:copermitsoffice@nps.gov), of your name, the area where ashes will be disbursed and the date and time the activity will take place.

This letter serves as the permit required by the citation reference above. Instructions regarding location and notification will serve as the terms and conditions required by the citation. This letter or a copy thereof must be in the possession of at least one member of the party when human ashes are scattered in the park.

Sincerely,

Permits Coordinator

Superintendent (or designee)

Date of call: \_\_\_\_\_

Permit number: \_\_\_\_\_