



**Stockbridge-Munsee Community
Band of Mohican Indians
Policy for
Treatment and Disposition of Human Remains and Cultural Items
That May be Discovered Inadvertently during Planned Activities**

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to describe the procedures that will be followed by all federal agencies, in the event there is an inadvertent discovery of human remains that are identified as potentially Stockbridge-Munsee (Mohican).

Treatment and Disposition of Human Remains and Cultural Items

- 1) The federal agency shall contact the Stockbridge-Munsee Community immediately, but no later than three days after the discovery of the remains, using the contact information below: *updated Nov. 2020*

Nathan Allison, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO)	Nathan.Allison@mohican-nsn.gov	413-884-6029 office
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If unavailable, contact:

Bonney Hartley, Tribal Historic Preservation Manager	Bonney.Hartley@mohican-nsn.gov	413-884-6048 office
Heather Bruegl, Cultural Affairs Director	Heather.Bruegl@mohican-nsn.gov	715-793-4270 office
Linda Mohawk Katchenago, Administrator	Linda.Katchenago@mohican-nsn.gov	715-793-4355 office

- 2) Place tobacco with the remains and funeral objects.
- 3) Cover remains and funeral objects with a natural fiber cloth such as cotton or muslin when possible.
- 4) No photographs to be taken.
- 5) The preferred treatment of inadvertently discovered human remains and cultural items is to leave human remains and cultural items in-situ and protect them from further disturbance.
- 6) Non-destructive "in-field" documentation of the remains and cultural items will be carried out in consultation with the Tribe, who may stipulate the appropriateness of certain methods of documentation.
- 7) If the remains and cultural items are left in-situ, no disposition takes place and the requirements of 43 CFR 10 Section 10.4 – 10.6 will have been fulfilled.
- 8) The specific locations of discovery shall be withheld from disclosure (with the exception of local law officials and tribal officials as described above) and protected to the fullest extent by federal law.
- 9) If remains and funeral objects are to be removed from the site, consideration will begin between the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribe and the federal agency.