



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

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline procedures that will be followed by all agencies, contractors or others in the event of an inadvertent discovery of human remains or cultural materials that are identified as potentially Stockbridge-Munsee (Mohican).

Treatment and Disposition of Human Remains and Cultural Items

- 1) The federal agency or contractor shall contact the Stockbridge-Munsee Community immediately, but no later than three days after the discovery of the remains and/or artifacts at the contact information below:

updated September 2022

Jeff Bendremer, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO)	thpo@mohican-nsn.gov	413-884-6029 office 715-881-2254 cell
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If unavailable, contact:

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

- 2) Place tobacco with human remains and/or funeral objects.
- 3) Cover remains and funeral objects with a natural fiber cloth such as cotton or muslin when possible.
- 4) No photographs will be taken.
- 5) The preferred treatment of inadvertently discovered cultural materials and/or human remains is to leave them *in-situ* (in place) and protect them from further disturbance.
- 6) Non-destructive "in-field" documentation of the remains and cultural items shall be carried out only in consultation with the Tribe, who will determine appropriate methods of recordation depending upon the circumstances.
- 7) If the remains and cultural items are to remain *in-situ*, the requirements of 43 CFR 10 Sections 10.4–10.6 will have been fulfilled.
- 8) The specific location(s) 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, specific procedures and considerations will be determined by Stockbridge-Munsee Tribe in consultation with the federal agency.