Billion Graves as a Service Project

Start at Home

	Register	1. Go to BillionsGraves.org/familysearch and click [Register] in the upper right corner. 2. Fill in the blanks to create your free BillionGraves account. 3. Receive and respond to the BillionGraves registration confirmation email to complete the registration process.
	Download the app App Store (iOS) or Google play (Android)	4. Take one photo with the App, then upload it to make sure you're connecting. To work with the BillionGraves app, **your device must have GPS capabilities**. (iPads with wi-fi + cellular have GPS. iPads without cellular do not. iPod touch <u>does not</u>.)
	Assemble your "tool kit"	*Large umbrella shield a headstone from glare *Flash light offset shadows *Soft brush/small broom *gently* sweep away grass clippings or dirt *Rags *gently* wipe headstones *Garden clippers trim plants from around headstones *spray bottle with water increase contrast in headstone lettering *gloves protect your hands! *cell phone charger

At the Cemetery

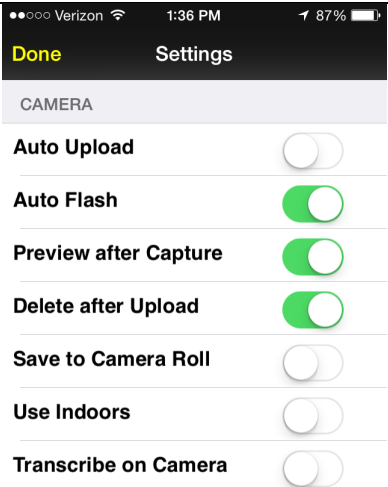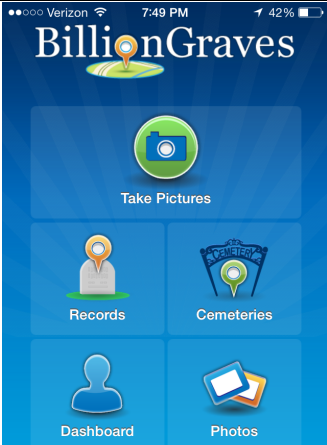|		
	Take pictures	• Work in teams – one or two to prepare headstones, one to photograph them. • "Frame" your photo close around the stone. • Link multiple images (i.e., front, back, sides of the same stone). • Transcribe hard to read headstones while you're standing by the headstone. • Avoid "shoe shots" and reflections of yourself. • Shoot the photo "straight on". (Kneel or crouch, if necessary.) • Adjust flowers or decorations that interfere (then replace them).

Williamsburg Family History Center
2017 Newman Road, Williamsburg, Virginia
757.220.0266 during center hours
757.903.5706 when the center is closed

Back at Home

	Upload Photos	When you have access to wi-fi, click [Photos], then [Upload] from your device. If you do not have "Delete After Upload" selected in your settings, you will then need to delete images from the app.
	Transcribe Headstones	• Transcribe information from headstone photos (the ones you took, or from any cemetery in the world). You have 14 days to transcribe your own before they become available to others. • Transcribe "Initial Caps" even if the headstone was "ALL CAPS." • **Do not** use a question mark (?) for text that you can't read. Just transcribe what you can. Leave the rest blank or use a dash to mark characters or numbers you cannot read. (NOTE: This is different than for FamilySearch Indexing.)

App Tips

Settings screen (Camera settings shown)	• Click on [Dashboard] then [Settings] to change app settings. • Enable "Save to Camera Roll" if you want the option of using the photos in other ways (like contributing to other websites, including FindAGrave). The default is not to save to Camera Roll. • If you have unlimited data, enable Auto Upload. The default is not to upload until you are on WiFi.	
BillionGraves app main screen	• While you're still at the cemetery, check photo quality. Click [Photos] on the app main screen. • Delete duplicates photos BEFORE uploading. • Transcribe difficult to read headstones while you're standing by the headstone.	Cedar Grove Cemetery uploaded photos