

## Maintenance Procedures for Bronze Sculpture

### OUTDOORS

**Spring:** Wax and buff before the weather gets too hot (late April, early May)

**Mid-summer:** Clean when weather is hottest (July or August)

**Fall:** Wax and buff before the weather is too cold (late September)

**Wax and Buff:** With a damp, sturdy cotton cloth, wipe sculpture with water. If dirt is in crevices, use a standard natural bristle paint brush to push dirt out, dry sculpture immediately. Lightly wax sculpture with pastry brush (or fine, natural-bristle brush)—use a thin coat, let dry a few minutes, then buff—first with shoe brush to reach creviced areas, second with a dry sturdy cotton cloth (shirt type).

This wax and buff procedure of damp wash, dry, then buff **without** the extra coat of wax, can be done at any time throughout the year (except in winter) to clean any dust/dirt deposits.

**Note:** If a white film develops in any of the creviced areas (film is easily scraped off with a fingernail) the coat of wax applied is **too heavy**. If this happens, the excess can be thinned out with a Naptha solvent, then wiped and re-waxed with a fine coat, and re-buffed.

**Cleaning:** On a hot day, when the sculpture is warm, use a damp rag (with water only) to clean the superficial dirt. Dry the sculpture. Soak a rag with Naptha solvent, and wipe down. This will remove some wax and dirt. Then, apply a heavier than normal coat of wax and **wipe it off right away**—this will bring more dirt off with the soft wax. Then, using a stiff pastry brush, push any excess wax out of the crevices and create an even, thin coat of wax over the whole surface of the sculpture. Let dry, and buff with a shoe brush and cloth. (*Naptha solvent can be purchased at any auto body shop*)

**Note:** Magic marker graffiti can be removed with “Goo Gone” (available at Ace Hardware stores). Area cleaned with “Goo Gone” should then be rewaxed.

**Important: It is recommended that you hire a trained professional to show your maintenance workers how to correctly carry out the above procedures.**

### INDOORS

Once or twice a year, buff the sculpture with a soft bristled shoe brush to remove surface dust and dirt, and then buff with a sturdy cotton cloth. After a few years, the sculpture may need a new coat of wax—this should be done if you notice the wax will no longer hold a good shine.