



LORETTO WOODS NATURAL CEMETERY

Summary Of Fees, Rules and Regulations

Availability: Loretto Woods Natural Cemetery offers burial space for those who prefer a simple and natural burial free from chemical embalming or cement vaults. You are welcome here regardless of what you believe, who you love, or the color of your skin.

Cost: The Loretto Community is committed to making our natural burial grounds as accessible and affordable as possible. Please let us know if you would like to pay by installments or if you have special financial considerations.

TRADITIONAL NATURAL BURIAL - \$4000

This includes:

- The burial plot
- Opening and closing of the grave
- A contribution to the burial grounds perpetual care
- A permanent grave ID marking pin and GPS mapping

It does not include funeral home fees or transportation to the cemetery. Saturday burials require an additional fee.

NATURAL BURIAL OF CREMATED REMAINS - \$2000

This includes:

- The burial plot
- Opening and closing of the grave
- A contribution to the burial grounds perpetual care fund
- A permanent grave ID marking pin and GPS mapping

It does not include funeral home or cremation fees.

Please note that body preparation, funeral arrangements, transportation of the body to the Loretto Motherhouse, and any graveside service / ritual are the responsibility of family members or friends of the deceased.

BURIAL REGULATIONS

Embalming: Remains should not be embalmed with toxic chemicals (newer nontoxic embalming chemicals approved by the Green Burial Council are acceptable). Clients are asked to inform funeral directors and/or morticians to avoid embalming and to use alternatives such as refrigeration, dry ice, or closed casket services.

Burial Containers: All interments shall be made in biodegradable containers such as a wooden casket, urn, shroud, cardboard cremation box, or other biodegradable container. Containers shall be constructed of sufficient strength to support the weight of an adult human body.

Outer Interment Containers: Vaults are inconsistent with natural burial and are not permitted at Loretto Woods Natural Cemetery.

Cremation Remains: Cremation remains are accepted. Containers are optional but must be biodegradable.

Gravesite Selection: Loretto Woods staff selects gravesites immediately preceding preparations for the burial based on season, weather, restoration initiatives, and other factors. Requests to be buried beside a loved one will be honored as long as doing so is in accordance with best practices for managing the woods.

Visitation Rights: Family members and other friends are welcome to visit gravesites during daylight hours. Please stay on established paths when walking in Loretto Woods.

Exhumation of Graves: Exhumation of graves will only be permitted through a court order. All costs, services, and liability will be assumed by the person arranging the disinterment.

SITE MAINTENANCE REGULATIONS

Woodland Management: Loretto Woods Natural Cemetery is a natural area. Our woodland management practices are designed to maintain and protect the natural habitat and native vegetation and to reflect the surrounding ecosystems. We use non-invasive methods to preserve a natural appearance, following the Green Burial Council's operations and management criteria. (For example, if a tree falls on a closed grave, we will

most likely not remove it; similarly, if a native tree grows on a closed grave, we will also not remove it.)

Floral Tributes and Decorations: Decorations, floral tributes, flags, shepherd's hoods, and similar items are permitted only at the time of interment services. Funeral Directors or family members are required to remove such items immediately following graveside services. If they are not removed, Loretto staff will remove them.

GRAVE MARKER REGULATIONS

Marker Specifications: Modest grave markers are permitted. They must comply with the nature preserve concept and be approved by cemetery staff. Markers must be natural stone. They may be engraved but may not be polished. The stones must lie flat and have a natural appearance, including irregular edges. Stones must be at least 96 square inches (approximately 8"x 12") but may not exceed 216 square inches (approximately 18"x 12"). Stones may not extend above the soil surface more than 3 inches. If needed, Mattingly Funeral home can help arrange the purchase of such a stone.

Living Memorials: Living memorials are native plants: trees, shrubs, grasses or flowers. All living memorials must be approved native species. Permission from Loretto Woods staff is required for any planting.

To the extent that this summary is inconsistent with the complete Rules and Regulations of the Loretto Motherhouse Nature Preserve Cemetery, the complete Rules and Regulations will apply.