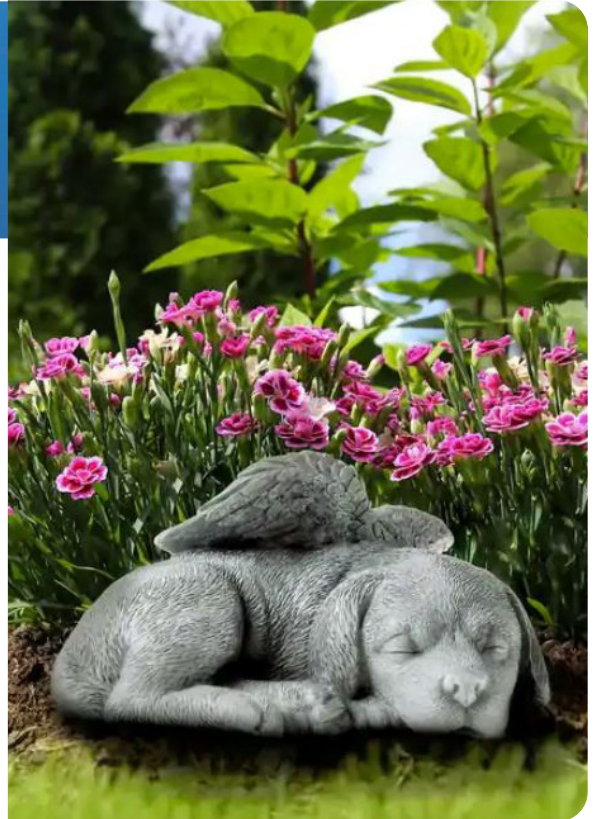


A GUIDE TO PET HOME BURIAL

If you have just lost your beloved pet, you may want to memorialize them by burying them in the backyard. The laws and regulations governing the removal or disposal of your pet, and whether it's legal to bury a dead pet on your property, can differ by state, county or municipality. Before attempting a pet burial on land you legally own, you should fully research and understand all laws pertaining to your property.

PLEASE KNOW THAT BURIAL OF ANIMAL BODIES IS NOT PERMITTED IN URBAN AND SUBURBAN AREAS.

Burial should only be performed in accordance with local and state laws and with the landlord's authorization. Check your county ordinances for restrictions. There are no official guidelines for proper disposal of dead animals but to protect human, animal and environmental health, follow these guidelines below:



1. When preparing the body for burial, wrap your pet in a blanket, t-shirt or other fabric. Avoid plastic materials as they slow down the natural process of absorption back into the earth. Be sure to include any letters/notes, pictures, toys or your pet's favorite possessions.
2. When preparing the gravesite, ensure that the top of the animal's body is covered with **at least 2 feet of soil**. This ensures that the space is deep enough (3 - 5 feet) to prevent curious animals from investigating the area. If digging at this depth is not attainable, it is imperative to cover the hole with a large rock or wire to prevent disturbance by wildlife. **Please Note:**
 - Euthanized pet remains are poisonous and possibly deadly to wildlife animals who could ingest them.
 - A pet that has died of a contagious disease should be professionally cremated.
 - Animals should not be buried in sandy or rocky soils, flood land or around a home's foundation.
 - A deceased animal may leak bodily fluids after passing. Because of this, buried animals must not come in contact with any surface bodies of water or groundwater including inland lakes, streams, rivers or open drains.
 - Graves must not be **located within 200 feet** of any stream or groundwater and **500 feet** from a well used to supply potable drinking water.
3. Sprinkle about **1 cup of lime powder** (calcium hydroxide) at the bottom of the grave site and about **1 cup** on top of the animal, then backfill with soil. Be sure to compress the earth and level the floor. Use a headstone or decorative piece to mark the area and commemorate your pet.
4. Finally, if you were to ever sell your property, it is important to notify the future buyers of the presence of any animals that may be buried on the land.

Please accept our sincere condolences for your loss. Our thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time.