

Loosing your beloved pet and the choices you have after their passing

Meadow Wood Pet Cemetery

The loss of a family pet is always difficult, but surprisingly, the choices the owner has after their loss are still widely misunderstood and unknown. As such, we hope within this article we can clear some of the doubts and questions we at Meadow Wood are often asked and decipher some of options.

Take Time

Ultimately, you have time to consider your options and time to make decisions based on what you want. Although difficult, we understand that it is an upsetting moment, but through family support and choosing the right services, the grieving process can be made more bearable.

Your Beloved Pet

If the animal has passed away at home with you we suggest carrying out a few simple steps to make you and your pet more comfortable.

> Call a friend or family member to come and help you through the process, it may only be for a few hours, but they will be able to support you in any small way. It really does make a big difference. If you need any further assistance call your local veterinary practice, they will be able to assist you in any preparations for the next steps and help give advice. Additionally, call your local pet cemetery or crematorium. We here at Meadow Wood offer the option to come out to your home and help personally prepare the animal for collection at very little cost. We feel it helps to ease the pain and heartache of having to take the animal to the local vets or crematorium yourself, but we understand if you equally wish to do this. It's all up to you.

> Dealing with the body is delicate and upsetting at the best of times, but you will naturally want to wrap the animal in some bedding or blankets and if possible, with help, move the animal to a cool, dry and quiet part of the house. This will help you to feel better knowing the animal is safe and cared for whilst you continue to make further arrangements.

After Care Options

You may already have an idea for how you wish celebrate your animals life, but most haven't begun to consider the options after the animal has been collected by either the local crematorium or vet practices. But, we hope we can offer some clarity on decisions to be made over the next day or so.

Burial (with/without coffin)

Timeframe

Cost

Arranging for an animal to be buried is more expensive and time consuming, but nevertheless a peaceful and calming way to celebrate your animals life. After collection of the animal, the Meadow Wood team delicately measure the animal and arrange the build of a beautiful locally sourced and built coffin. Alternatively, the animal can be buried without a coffin at less cost. Once this decision is confirmed, the team will hand measure and dig the grave which can be of your location within the cemetery, all whilst your animal is being carefully stored within our premises in Churchstow, Devon. At a predetermined date and time arranged by you, the burial can take place within our quiet grounds, at your pace, with waiting room and drinking facilities on hand.

Individual Cremation

Timeframe

Cost

The majority of owners wish to have the animals cremated with locally, meaning your animal is never taken more than a few miles from our business office which helps to ease the heartache of leaving its side. The animal is cremated individually from other animals and is at no risk of being contaminated and we pride ourselves on this sensitive service. The animals ashes are then carefully taken out for hand packaging in a number of products such as those shown below. These offer the opportunity to scatter the ashes in a place of choosing such as your home or favourite walking spot, personal inscribed caskets and urns for mantel displays, or other products of your choosing. We pride ourselves on being flexible to your ever need at any stage of the process.

Oak Casket

Scatter Pouch/Tube

Tribute Urn (pottery/plastic)

Routine Cremation

Timeframe

Cost

Choosing a routine cremation is not abnormal and offers an inexpensive way to celebrate your animals life however special.

The animal is cremated alongside other animals and is not an individual cremation. These ashes are then scattered, or can be buried, in our garden of remembrance. If you should wish, a small portion of token ash can be kept for your keeping in any of the above caskets.

Taking Care of You

Our absolute priority is to take care of you and your pet through the entire process. Meadow Wood specialises in a providing a sensitive, genuine and caring service to all our clients and vet practices throughout the South Hams.

We hope that this short article has provided some of the clarity to the process. Should you have any further queries however large or small, we would be delighted to be of assistance. You can call, email or use social media to get in touch with us at any time.

Thank you for taking the time to view our services,

We hope to be of service,

**Julie, Caroline, Steve, Zoe, Tim
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