

An Aid to Burying a Pet

Burial should only be performed in accordance with local and state laws and with the landlord's authorization if applicable. To protect human, animal and environmental health, please follow these recommendations:



1. When digging a hole, ensure that the entire body is covered with at least 3 feet of soil. Note that:
 - *Euthanized pet remains are poisonous and possibly mortal to other animals who would ingest it.*
 - *Pets that died of a contagious disease should be cremated.*
 - *A deceased animal may leak body fluids after passing.*
 - *Buried animals must not come in contact with any surface bodies of water or groundwater including inland lakes, streams, rivers, open drains.*
 - *Deceased animals should not be buried in sandy soils, black land, rocky soil, flood land or around home foundation.*
 - *Animal graves must not be located within 100 feet of any streams, groundwater, wells, springs, and other surface waters*
2. Place a layer of lime at the bottom of the hole and also on the body.
3. Compress the earth and level the soil.
4. Take a moment to honor your pet and all the wonderful memories you shared...
5. Finally, if you 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 most heartfelt sympathies for your loss...
our thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time.*

Washington State Requirements

The Washington State regulation governing disposal of deceased companion animals is: Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 246-203-121 "Disposal of Dead Animals"

Please note: Additional local requirements may apply. When in doubt, contact your local health department or the appropriate local authority before burial.

*This handout is provided for general educational purposes and is not legal advice.
Washington State and local requirements may change.*