

If you answered “burial” – read on

Where to Bury

For those who prefer burial to cremation, the traditional options have been either to bury in one's yard or in a pet cemetery. Yet for those without a yard, the only option has been a pet cemetery. Sadly, most pet cemeteries do not provide simple earth burials.

Pet Cemeteries

Most pet cemeteries promote the use of plastic caskets or metal containers. When wood caskets are offered, they're usually treated with toxic finishes and lined with polyester. Also, few pet cemeteries have a dedicated section for green burials. The *Green Pet-Burial Society* supports pet cemeteries in going green.

Whole-Family Cemeteries

If animals are part of our families, then why can't we bury them in our family cemetery plots? This is governed by state cemetery laws. Most green cemeteries will allow this, yet it is prohibited in many states, such as NY, CA, OR and WA. The *Green Pet-Burial Society* provides a list of green cemeteries in which pet burials are permissible. We also support efforts to modify existing laws to ensure such options are available.

Mission

To encourage and promote 'green burial' options for pets' remains in sites protected in perpetuity.

Bringing the
Green Burial Movement
to pet cemeteries

Supporting pet-burials in
family cemetery plots

*Accepting donations in memoriam**

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a program of *Family Spirals™*
www.familyspirals.org

**Please make checks payable to "Eric Greene"*
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What will you do with your pet's body?



Green Pet-Burial Society

Support for a gentle return

www.GreenPetBurial.org

Support for conservation burials

We typically associate animals with nature, yet when a beloved pet passes, most do not have the option for a simple earth burial in most pet or other cemeteries.

The *Green Pet-Burial Society* joins the green burial movement in ushering a new era when we:

- ☼ experience new connections to *the natural* in life and death,
- ☼ commit our bodies to the preservation and restoration of natural places,
- ☼ easily access alternatives to unsustainable practices that define contemporary deathcare, and
- ☼ take comfort in delivering our loved ones' remains to a natural resting place.



Objectives

1. Public Education

To inform families about local green burial options for companion animals *before* their pet passes on.

2. Pet-Burials in Family Cemetery Plots

To advocate for state cemetery laws that allow a pet's remains to be buried in a family's cemetery plot. While some states allow this practice, it is currently prohibited in New York, Washington, Oregon and California, among others (we're compiling a complete list).

3. Education for Pet Cemetery Professionals

To provide pet cemetery owners and managers with information to support their interest in and provision of green burial options.

4. Permanency

To encourage pet cemeteries to acquire legal status as sites protected *in perpetuity* – a prerequisite for viable green burial options and land conservation.

5. Local Mobilization

To encourage local networking in order to

- help local pet cemeteries go green
- purchase pet cemeteries, collectively
- establish new green pet cemeteries

6. Capital Campaigns

To support the establishment of new green pet-burial sites.

7. Research

To facilitate multidisciplinary research about animal death, with emphasis on pet cemeteries and earth burials. Research includes inquiries into how a family's choice for a particular form of disposition is conceived and connected to perceptions of other animals and our interactions with them.

8. Creative Arts

To celebrate our connection with Nature through various art forms.

9. Interstate Transportation

To support systems that facilitate the transportation of a pet's remains for burial back home. [Note: we met this objective, May 2012]