



METROPOLITAN
CEMETERIES BOARD



NATURAL BURIALS

Fremantle Cemetery
Pinnaroo Valley Memorial Park

*A very personal choice for the
environmentally conscious*



NATURAL BURIALS

A *very personal choice* for the environmentally conscious.

In a departure from the granite headstones, flat lying burial plaques and manicured grounds of the conventional cemetery, natural burials offer the community a **unique and sustainable** final resting place with minimal disturbance to the natural bushland environment.

With a natural burial, the body is returned to nature in a biodegradable coffin and materials made from natural fibres to allow remains to return to the earth to decompose naturally.

To further ensure a pure basis for new organic life, the use of preparatory chemicals is strictly prohibited as is the placement of artificial tributes or commemorative items. Graves remain unmarked and no monumental work is permitted within our natural burial areas.

Although unmarked, each grave is mapped and surveyed; ensuring the ability to relocate graves for both current and future generations.

Bushland unique to each surrounding area will be maintained and cultivated using plants indigenous to the local area. Over time the bushland will become a living and lasting natural commemoration. When families come to visit their loved ones they will be able to experience a beautiful bushland area as a natural memorial in its entirety.



Artist's impression. Revegetated natural burial area at Fremantle Cemetery.

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A **central commemorative feature** has been established at both Fremantle and Pinnaroo. This provides a place for reflection for those families wishing to place a simple memorial plaque.



Natural burials at **Fremantle** are located within an elevated grove that overlooks the cemetery's splendid bushland gully. Natural burials at **Pinnaroo** are located in a small and secluded bushland pocket. Bordered by traditional burial locations and memorial gardens, these unique pockets of land will be progressively vegetated with natural bushland plant species as plots are utilised.



Enquiries regarding natural burials can be directed to your Funeral Director at the time of need. For those wishing to pre-purchase a natural burial plot, contact Fremantle Cemetery or Pinnaroo Valley Memorial Park on 1300 793 109.

PLANNING A NATURAL BURIAL?

Things to discuss *with your family*

Natural burials are a unique concept and are, more often than not, selected by individuals making their own funeral arrangements in advance.

For those pre-planning, it is advisable to discuss your preferences with your immediate family and determine how they feel about the natural burial concept.

If you choose a natural burial, the traditional coffin is replaced with an environmentally sustainable alternate. In addition, there is no placement of the traditionally expected head stone or memorial at the burial location.

Whilst these factors are often important for those making their own arrangements, the reality for family members who attend the funeral and visit the cemetery at a later time, can be disconcerting.

Natural burials are designed to have minimal impact on the local environment. In light of this, whilst families can place a small commemorative plaque on a dedicated commemorative feature, there is no option to place a plaque on the grave site. The placement of floral tributes and other commemorative items is not permitted.

So as to ensure that those family members left behind are prepared for this reality, we encourage a frank discussion with them prior to confirming your natural burial preferences.



Fremantle Cemetery
Carrington Street, Palmyra WA

Pinnaroo Valley Memorial Park
Whitfords Avenue, Padbury WA

Telephone: 1300 793 109
Email: mcb@mcb.wa.gov.au
www.mcb.wa.gov.au



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