

Mt. Whitney Cemetery District

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GREEN BURIALS PRICING and PROCEDURES

The Mt. Whitney Cemetery is considered by the Green Burial Council as a Hybrid Burial Ground, since it is an established cemetery that is now providing green burials. These burials are located at the south end of Sections 6 and 7, also known as the *Serenity Garden* and the *Desert Garden*.

The term "family" as herein used means relatives, friends, or the individual(s) legally responsible for the burial.

"Cemetery" herein used means the Mt. Whitney Cemetery in Lone Pine, California.

GREEN BURIAL STANDARDS: There are certain standards that need to be maintained to qualify as a green burial:

- (1) the body cannot be embalmed.
- (2) the body must be wrapped in a shroud of any biodegradable fabric and placed in a biodegradable container such as wicker.
- (3) no vault, liner, or anything of this sort can be used.
- (4) the family is encouraged to be involved in the burial to whatever degree they choose, e.g., helping to fill in the burial site using shovels, laying flowers or branches or other biodegradables on top of the body or burial site; putting the marker in place, or something else as approved by the District.

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FUNERAL HOME: The Mt. Whitney Cemetery will only receive a body that has been prepared by a licensed funeral home.

The deceased will be shrouded in bio-degradable fabric, and placed in a bio-degradable casket, by the funeral home. It will be delivered to the cemetery by the funeral home according to the date and time stipulated by the family.

BURIAL: The cemetery allows only one body to be placed in a burial site. A California burial permit indicating burial at the Mt. Whitney Cemetery must be supplied to the cemetery prior to the burial, along with the cemetery form known as the *Green Burial Authorization Form*.

If the family would like to participate in the lowering of the body into the grave, it will require that the family have present four (4) strong individuals. However, if the deceased weighed over 250 pounds at the time of death, a lowering device must be used.

Please note that if the ashes of a previously deceased individual are interred at the same time, in the same hole, the ashes must be placed in a bio-degradable container or scattered over the body immediately prior to the grave being filled in. (There must also be a burial permit provided for this cremated individual, as well as a \$50 administration fee. See the cemetery management regarding this, prior to the burial.)

FUNERAL SET-UP: The Mt. Whitney Cemetery personnel ONLY will dig the grave and prepare the burial site prior to the arrival of the family and funeral attendees. The family may then add to the setup of the area as they wish.

Chairs, a table for displays, and a lectern for those speaking or a place for a memorial book to rest, can be provided by the cemetery for the funeral. Since the burial site is too far from an electrical outlet, no sound system is available that needs electricity.

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When the grave is filled in, it will be mounded over with all the dirt removed from the grave. The burial site will be oriented east to west, with the head at the west end.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT NO ALCOHOL IS PERMITTED ON THE CEMETERY GROUNDS, EVEN DURING A FUNERAL. ANY ALCOHOLIC CONTAINERS PLACED ON A GRAVE AT ANY TIME WILL BE REMOVED AND DISCARDED.

FLOWERS: If the family has ordered flowers to arrive before the service, the cemetery personnel will supervise their arrival and placement. If the family wishes to rearrange this placement, they are free to do so.

The flowers will be left on the grave, to be treated according to the rules of nature in the Lone Pine area. The family may, if they wish, toss flowers or other bio-degradable items into the burial hole with the deceased.

If an in-ground flower vase is requested for placement on top of the grave, the cemetery can provide it for a charge of \$50.

VETERAN DECEASED: If desired, United States flags can be placed at the gravesite during the service, along with the flag representing the deceased's military association. A small flag may be placed permanently at the gravesite by the family.

FEES:

Plot:	\$ 700
Endowment	\$ 250
Opening/Closing/Funeral setup:	\$ 800
Placement of ashes into grave Cremation was done out of state)	\$ 50 (plus cost of permit if

NON-RESIDENTS: Appropriate non-residency fees will apply for the burial of a deceased individual who was not a citizen of Inyo County or a tax-paying landowner in Inyo County at the time

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of death. (Further information about the fees involved is available from the cemetery management. This fee will be waived for a cremated individual IF their ashes are buried at the same time in the same hole.)

HEADSTONE (aka MEMORIAL MARKER): The family can provide a natural stone engraved or painted with whatever information they want. However, the size and weight of a stone memorial **MUST** be pre-approved by the cemetery. A marker may also be ordered from Brune Mortuary in Bishop, CA, or on-line. Please check with the cemetery for dimension and weight restrictions for either choice **PRIOR** to ordering it.

The marker will **NOT** be encased in concrete. Delivery of the marker must be coordinated with the cemetery. The family may request cemetery assistance, but there will be an extra fee depending on the type and weight of the memorial marker.

PERMIT: The burial cannot take place without a Burial Permit. The funeral home that releases the body or performs the cremation provides this; however, if for any reason the cemetery management has to obtain a permit at the County Health Department, there will be an additional charge of \$50.

8/1/2023