



Natural burials in Fraser Coast Regional Council cemeteries

What is a natural burial?

Council's natural burial grounds allow for the burying of a human body or ashes in the earth, in a manner that allows for natural decomposition with minimal impact on the surrounding ecosystem.

Landscaping in the natural burial grounds will be limited to the removal of overgrowth, with the intent that the burial ground looks and feels, as much as possible, like a natural landscape.

Do I need to use a coffin?

You must be buried in a shroud, or a coffin, that is made of 100% biodegradable materials.

Shrouds should be made of natural fibres such as wool, silk, bamboo, hemp, linen or cotton.

Coffins must be made of cardboard, wicker, seagrass, bamboo, sustainably grown and untreated timber, or other materials that facilitate rapid biodegradability.

Can I be buried in the same grave as a loved one?

Only single interments of human remains are permitted in a single burial site. Council may permit the burial of ashes in a burial site that already has human remains. Council will also endeavour to accommodate requests for adjacent burials, subject to site suitability.

Can I have a headstone or memorial?

No. Council will provide a common memorial at the entrance to the natural burial ground, to which can be affixed a standard sized plaque supplied by Council.

Can I plant a tree on the grave, or place flowers?

To maintain the natural burial ground as a living ecosystem, the planting of vegetation on gravesites will not be permitted. Local native flowers may be placed on the site only on the day of interment and will be removed by Council after a period of two weeks.

Plot sizes

Each site is 1.5m wide by 2.4m long. Natural Burial grave sites will be dug by Council using mechanical means.

Are natural burials cheaper than other burials?

Fees for natural burials can be found in Council's adopted Schedule of Fees and Charges - <https://www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au/fees-and-charges> All burials must be conducted by a recognised Undertaker.

To reserve a site, please contact Council to arrange an on-site meeting with an authorised person.



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