

Plan-Ahead Guide

For

Cemetery Arrangements

Compliments of Puritan Lawn Memorial Park
185 Lake Street Peabody, MA 01960 Tel. (978) 535-3660

Planning in advance will assure you of a final resting place and arrangements that express your wishes. Puritan Lawn Memorial Park would like to assist in guiding you through the decisions you will need to make concerning your cemetery arrangements.

For your convenience, Puritan Lawn offers this First Step Plan-Ahead Guide. Read this information and then continue the process by requesting a more complete explanation about what's involved. Planning-Ahead means your family will avoid confusion and certain complications that can take place at the time of a death. The plan-ahead process is completed only after your specific requirements are placed in writing.

Puritan Lawn's staff can provide assistance in several ways. First, we can guide you through the steps that require your attention. Second, we will assist you by providing plan-ahead forms that when completed, will enable you or your family to easily carry out your intentions. And third, we can show you various payment options that will enable you to secure your products and services at today's prices protecting you from all future price increases.

To receive more information on how to prepare for a final resting place, please call us at 978-535-3660. We remain available to answer your questions.

There is, of course, no obligation.

The Selection of Your Cemetery

By planning ahead, the selection of your family's cemetery can be a very straight forward process that requires only a small investment of your time. The mission of a cemetery is to provide for the commemoration of life. You are encouraged to visit those cemeteries you wish to consider to see which one best meets your personal, financial and cultural needs. Decide which facility expresses your feelings toward what a final resting place should be for you and your family. Just some of the criteria you'll want to evaluate...

- ✓ *Will the cemetery provide for the disposition of the deceased with care and dignity?*
- ✓ *Is the location accessible and a reasonable traveling distance for your family?*
- ✓ *Is the cemetery situated in an attractive section of the community or is it in an undesirable locale that may be in decline?*
- ✓ *Are the cemetery and office hours of operation convenient?*
- ✓ *Does the cemetery have an air of permanence that suggests good administration?*
- ✓ *Are there care funds that ensure proper grounds maintenance in perpetuity?*
- ✓ *Does the cemetery offer several interment options and locations from which to choose?*
- ✓ *Does the cemetery have a crematorium to serve families that choose cremation?*
- ✓ *Will there be space at the cemetery to accommodate future generations of your family?*
- ✓ *If you choose to prepay, are there deferred budget programs?*
- ✓ *What personal services are provided after an interment?*

In the final analysis, ask yourself, "Is this cemetery where I will feel secure about leaving my loved ones? Does the cemetery and its staff represent the most capable custodians of my deceased family members?"

Interment Choice

Once your family cemetery has been selected, you will want to determine your choice of interment, casket or cremation. When visiting with a member of the cemetery's staff, make certain you are shown the areas of the cemetery that will accommodate your family's needs and interment choice(s). The area you finally select must please you; this means that chances are good it will be an outstanding place for your family to visit after a burial has taken place.

Burial Vaults (casket burial only)

In almost all cases, a cemetery will require the use of a permanent outside container. Constructed of steel reinforced concrete, the vault serves to protect your casket from earth and moisture. The features of the burial vault that best serve you are those that you have decided upon yourself. Making plans in advance allows you the opportunity to exercise your best intentions in an environment free of stress and grief.

Urns/Urn-Vaults (cremation only)

Cremation is the age-old process by which human remains are placed in a cremation chamber called a retort and reduced by heat and evaporation. Cremation accomplishes in a matter of hours what earth burial accomplishes over a long period of time. In Massachusetts, crematory facilities must be located on cemetery grounds. The state of the art Puritan Lawn Memorial Park facility began operation in 2004.

Most people who choose cremation will replace the temporary cardboard or plastic container supplied by most crematories with a permanent urn. Some urns are simple while others are elaborate. Urns are available in bronze, marble, hardwood and other long lasting materials. Many urns offer opportunity for personalization including emblems, name plates, and words of endearment. In addition, families may choose to place their urn in an urn-vault which will protect their urn from soil and moisture. Cemeteries, funeral homes, and crematories typically have a varied selection of cremation containers on display.

Memorialization

Each person wants and deserves to be remembered. Your memorial design becomes a lasting tribute and should reflect your preferences and interests. An assortment of memorial types, sizes, colors, and styles are available to reflect your distinctive personality. Additional design enhancements in the form of decorative borders, personal epitaphs, or emblems can be added to express religious devotions, hobbies, or fraternal/military affiliations.

When Family Matters so Does Planning-Ahead

Your choice to plan-ahead enables you to make an informed decision and choose cemetery services and memorialization that are meaningful to you and your family. This ensures that your final wishes are carried out and eliminates questions loved ones will otherwise be forced to face.

Once you have documented your choices, you can give some thought as to how you wish to handle your final expenses. If you choose, you can carry the planning process further by prepaying. Those who prepay enjoy current price protection and eliminate the financial burden that may otherwise be placed upon surviving family members.

Once you have preplanned, other family members will likely want to look into planning-ahead especially if they want their memorial estate nearby to you. In the end, the decision to plan-ahead is yours. We are hopeful that you will join the thousands of thoughtful, caring families who are already benefiting by a written plan-ahead program.



[Click Here for More Information](#)

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Visit us at puritanlawn.com*