

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How much does a cremation service cost?

A: The cost of a cremation service depends directly on the services and products selected while making arrangements with the funeral home. A funeral service with cremation can be as elaborate as a full traditional funeral including burial of the urn or as basic as a direct cremation where no other products or services are purchased.

Q: Is embalming required for cremation?

A: Embalming is not required for a direct cremation. Embalming may be required if other viewing or memorial services are chosen.

Q: Can cremains be scattered at-will?

A: Always check local laws and ordinances before scattering cremains.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What cremation products are available?

A: Most funeral homes offer rental caskets for viewing services prior to cremation. If the body is going to be cremated in a casket, crematories often require that it be made of combustible materials.

Other cremation products available include a wide variety of urns and urn vaults. Urns range from basic containers to customizable pieces that reflect the personality and/or interests of the deceased.



This informational pamphlet is provided by:

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT CREMATION



Cremation

Questions, Answers, and Information

Q: Where are cremations performed?

A: In a crematory that is licensed and regulated by the State of Missouri Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors and by the Department of Natural Resources.

Q: Who performs the cremation?

A: A State Licensed Funeral Director.

Q: How long does the cremation process take?

A: The length of the cremation process varies according to weight, but takes about two hours on average.

Q: What happens after the body is cremated?

A: The cremains are processed into what is commonly referred to as “ash” and returned to the family per the funeral arrangements made with the funeral home.



Q: What is “cremation”?

A: Cremation is the process of using intense heat to reduce the human body to its basic elements.

Q: What is a crematory?

A: The term “crematory” refers to the facility where the cremation process is performed. Crematories should be professional in appearance and comfortably accommodate the family taking part in the cremation process.

Q: Are there any environmental concerns?

A: The cremation process ensures that harmful chemicals, diseases, etc do not enter the ground and water table.

Q: How popular is cremation?

A: The average cremation rate for both the state of Missouri and the nation is slightly over 30%. In densely populated metropolitan areas, the rate may be 50% or greater.

Q: Can cremation be included in a traditional funeral?

A: Yes. Your funeral home can arrange for the cremation to take place after the viewing, visitation, and other funeral services have taken place.



Q: Why do people choose cremation?

A: There are many reasons people choose cremation. Some chose it due to cultural or religious beliefs. Other times it is a more reasonable choice when, due to time constraints, geography, or financial restraints a traditional funeral with burial is not a practical choice.

Q: Can the family be involved in the process?

A: Yes. Families sometimes want to view the insertion of the cremation container into the retort to attain a feeling of closure similar to a graveside service.

Identification of the body directly before cremation may also be performed. Your funeral director will be happy to explain and discuss interactive cremation options.

