



Natural burial at Bunurong Memorial Park

Murrum Naroon, located in the beautiful Bunurong Memorial Park, offers a serene final resting place for environmentally conscious individuals seeking natural burial in Melbourne. This natural burial ground provides a sense of openness and connection with nature.



BUNURONG
MEMORIAL PARK

Honouring and celebrating life

What is a natural burial?

Natural burial is the practice of burying a deceased body into the earth in a manner that reflects the course of nature and limits the use of non-natural elements and processes.

In general, this means that the body is not embalmed, is covered only in a shroud, or contained in a coffin made of biodegradable materials, and buried at a shallower depth to aid in the natural decomposition process.

The site of a natural burial is intended to blend in with the local environment as much as possible and is therefore kept free of any items or plantings that are not native to the area.

Why consider natural burial?

Natural burial offers a range of benefits, each of which may appeal to different people for different reasons.

- Natural burial has a lower carbon footprint than traditional burial as it minimises environmental impacts, contributes to bushland regeneration, and supports native plants and wildlife.
- It is a simple and less formal process which removes some of the decision-making around the ceremony, coffin or casket, headstone, and floral arrangements.
- Natural burial sites are designed to blend in with the local environment, which is an appealing aesthetic for many people.



Guiding principles of natural burials

- The body must not be embalmed and may only be dressed in clothing made from natural fibres.
- Jewellery must be removed prior to burial except for personal metal items (e.g. gold and silver jewellery).
- Bodies will only be buried in coffins made from natural, untreated materials, or wrapped in a shroud made of natural fibres.
- Personal mementos placed with the body must be made from natural, biodegradable materials.
- Family members may decorate the burial vessel and place items on the body for burial such as personal letters and mementos made from natural, biodegradable materials.
- A nameplate made of durable material will be affixed to the coffin or shroud when buried.
- Only one burial is permitted per grave, and the grave shall be held in perpetuity in line with current Victorian legislation.
- A grave may be left unmarked or marked naturally with a small inscribed rock, native plant, or combination of both.
- Graveside tributes or memorabilia is restricted to natural, biodegradable materials such as fresh cut unwrapped flowers or small wooden items.

At Murrumbidgee, we believe in honouring and celebrating life while also being environmentally conscious. Our natural burial options give people the ability to reconnect with the earth naturally and gently in a native bushland environment.



Traditional and Natural Burial comparison



Bunurong Memorial Park

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SMCT acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the Traditional Owners of the land and acknowledges and pays respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.



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