



Rules and Regulations of the Natural Burial Grounds

The **Natural Burial Company** will manage the burial grounds. These regulations are made to enable The **Natural Burial Company** to shape and preserve a natural area for the benefit of nature and for future generations of visitors. They are essential to combining a proper respect for the dead with a suitable management and planting programme and so create a burial ground which is peaceful, pleasant, ecologically rich and above all a fitting memorial to those buried there.

The Directors sincerely ask visitors to treat the burial ground with care and respect.

These Regulations cover various areas of the cemetery operation:

General Care and Behaviour

1. These regulations apply to the natural burial grounds known as Scraftoft, Prestwold and Wrottesley Park Natural Burial Grounds.
2. The Burial Ground is open at such hours and upon such days, as The **Natural Burial Company** will, from time to time determine.
3. Children under 18 years of age are not admitted unless in the care of an adult.
4. All visitors to the grounds must comply with the cemetery regulations, and the Local Authorities Cemeteries Order, 1977, Article 10, paragraph 6, article and Section 1 of the Criminal Damages Act 1971.
5. A plan of the cemetery giving the situation of each burial place can be inspected at the office: The **Natural Burial Company**, Unit 7, Leatherline House Business Centre, 71 Narrow Lane, Aylestone, Leicester, LE2 8NA (tel: 0116 222 0247, email: info@thenaturalburialcompany.com); during normal office hours, by appointment.
6. Visitors must not disturb the wildlife or remove any materials from the burial grounds. Mobile telephones must be switched off within the burial grounds to preserve the peace and tranquillity of the area.
7. No dogs, pets, domestic or any animals, other than guide dogs for the blind or as arranged with The **Natural Burial Company** are allowed in any part of the Burial Ground.
8. All visitors must keep to the paths to avoid trampling and damage to the natural and emerging ground cover.
9. No ball games allowed.
10. Picking of flowers and shrubs or planting of flowers and shrubs is prohibited because it will prevent the generation of a natural landscape.
11. No shooting or any form of hunting is allowed.
12. No litter. Litterbins are not provided as it is expected that visitors will take their litter home with them.
13. No grazing animals are allowed in the burial grounds unless introduced by the management for conservation.

Conservation of Nature within the Burial Ground

14. This burial ground is being managed to encourage the natural landscape, therefore the erection of monuments, kerbs, fences, decorative stones, woodchips, the placing of markers upon burial plots as well as the cutting of grass on and around plots are not allowed. Also no plants or seeds are to be planted on any plots.
15. The **Natural Burial Company** reserves the right to remove any object planted in the burial grounds, which is judged to contravene the rules and regulations and be inappropriate to the purpose of a burial ground without prior notification to the licence holder. It also retains the right to remove any tree or any other plant which precludes the natural development of other trees and plants around it.

Booking of Funerals and Allocation of Graves

16. Burial grounds are small areas of land in which human remains or cremated human remains may be buried. They are carefully marked by the insertion into the grave of a microchip containing a unique reference number, which can be accessed by a remote reading device. The location is also marked upon a master plan and record book.
17. The purchaser may select a burial plot(s) provided that it is within the area designated for use as a burial ground, as designated by The **Natural Burial Company** from time to time. A register of burials is kept at the office: The **Natural Burial Company**, Unit 7, Leatherline House Business Centre, 71 Narrow Lane, Aylestone, Leicester, LE2 8NA (tel: 0116 222 0247, email: info@thenaturalburialcompany.com) and may be inspected during normal office hours. Searches can be asked for and certified extracts from it may be obtained on payment of the appropriate fee.
18. The purchase of a burial plot is the purchase of grant of the right of burial in that burial ground only and does not confer ownership of the ground or any other rights.
19. Only one interment is permitted in each grave space, but several grave spaces may be purchased and in certain areas these may be purchased near or next to each other. For cremated remains, grave spaces may be purchased for six, four or two interments.
20. All grants of burial rights granted by The **Natural Burial Company** are for a period of 50 years and are subject to these regulations that may be amended from time-to-time. It must be understood that using a reserved grave adjacent to a grave already buried in may result in some tree damage. No bricked graves or vaults are permitted.
21. All excavations of graves and all other works shall be carried out either by an employee of The **Natural Burial Company** or by a person approved by them. For families wishing to help with the excavation or filling in, special arrangements can be made with the office: The **Natural Burial Company**, Unit 7, Leatherline House Business

Centre, 71 Narrow Lane, Aylestone, Leicester, LE2 8NA (tel: 0116 222 0247, email: info@thenaturalburialcompany.com).

22. Floral tributes of any type may be placed on a grave at the time of the funeral but they will be removed after a reasonable period. This is to allow the natural ground cover to develop. Bunches of flowers left on grave by visitors must not be wrapped in cellophane or tied with florist's ribbon, as these are not biodegradable.
23. Memorial trees may be planted at the appropriate time of year, by arrangement with **The Natural Burial Company**. Trees can only be planted when a full grave space has been purchased, or they can be planted in the Memorial Tree area. Small memorial plaques can be put on the grave, otherwise large plaques can be put on the larger memorial posts found throughout the burial grounds.

Procedure for Arranging Interments

24. Notices of interments are to be given to **The Natural Burial Company** by either a funeral director or a private person at the company's address as shown on the Cemetery Application Form:
 The Natural Burial Company
 Unit 7, Leatherline House Business Centre
 71 Narrow Lane, Aylestone
 Leicester LE2 8NA
 tel: 0116 222 0247
 fax: 0116 233 3566
 email: info@thenaturalburialcompany.com
25. This office is open from 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Monday to Friday.
26. Interments must take place at a date and time agreed with **The Natural Burial Company**.
27. The minimum length of notice to be given where a grave is to be excavated shall be 48 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays.
28. **The Natural Burial Company's** office shall calculate the period of notice from its receipt of a notice containing the following information:
 - a. Full name of the deceased
 - b. Date of death
 - c. Age of the deceased
 - d. Address of the deceased
 - e. Place of death
 - f. Full description of the place of burial
 - g. An exact description of the size, type and shape of coffin or casket, e.g. Cardboard, Wicker, Willow, Bamboo or Banana Leaf (**Please note:** Solid hardwood coffins or caskets are **not allowed**; MDF or chipboard coffins or caskets are **not encouraged**)
 - h. The day and hour of the interment (the time at which the deceased will arrive at the Burial Ground)
 - i. Any arrangements made with respect to an 'officiant'
 - j. For a grave rights grant purchased prior to the funeral, the certificate of ownership of the rights must be produced before the burial takes place
 - k. The signed cemetery application form on behalf of the family, agreeing to the Rules and Regulations concerning the erection of memorials and the planting of trees and flowers
29. No body shall be buried unless the death has been registered and the proper documentation is supplied to **The Natural Burial Company**.
30. No cremated remains shall be buried unless a certificate of cremation is supplied to **The Natural Burial Company** and only biodegradable caskets are to be used (**The Natural Burial Company** would be pleased to offer advice).
31. No body shall be removed from any grave in the Burial Ground, once interred, without a licence from the Secretary of State under section 25 of the Burial Act 1857.
32. **The Natural Burial Company** encourages the use of biodegradable materials, for instance cardboard or wicker coffins; or shrouds made from natural materials. Coffins or caskets made from solid hardwood are **not allowed**, and non-biodegradable (MDF/Chipboard) materials are **not encouraged** in the Burial Grounds (**The Natural Burial Company** would be pleased to offer advice).
33. No camping or overnight stays are allowed anywhere on the Burial Ground, Car Park or the roads leading to it.
34. In case of emergencies, the Burial Ground Superintendent should be contacted, otherwise please contact the company's office, details as above.

Please note: You may not plant your own tree or shrub in the burial grounds due to specific local authority planning regulations. This is primarily to ensure biodiversity and prevent the introduction of non-native species to the burial ground.