

## ***An Aid to Burying a Pet***

Burial should only be performed in accordance with local and state laws and with the landlord's authorization (if applicable).

There are no official guidelines for the proper disposal of deceased animals. To protect human, animal, and environmental health, here are some recommended guidelines:

1. When digging a hole, ensure that the top of the body is covered with at least **three** feet of earth. If this depth is not attainable, it is important to cover the hole with a large rock or wire to prevent digging by wildlife. Please note that:
  - Euthanized pet remains are poisonous and possibly fatal to other living beings who may ingest them. They can remain poisonous for many (5+) years afterwards. This is punishable by the appropriate authorities if environmental contamination or death of other animals is linked to deceased pet remains.
  - Pets that died from a contagious disease should be cremated.
  - A deceased animal may leak body fluids after passing.
  - Buried animals must not come in contact with any water sources including lakes, streams, rivers, groundwater, wells, and open drains.
  - Deceased animals should not be buried in flood planes or around a building's foundation.
  - To help decrease water-source contamination, the grave site must be at least **200** feet from any above-ground water source and **500** feet from a well used to supply potable drinking water.
  - The casket used for your pet must have a prominent label or tag affixed to it saying "POISONOUS".
  - If you ever sell your property, it is important to notify the future buyers of the presence of any animals that may be buried on the land.
2. Place a layer of lime at the bottom of the hole and on the body.
3. Compress the earth and level the soil.
4. Finally, take a moment to yourself...

*Please accept our most heartfelt sympathies for your loss...  
our thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time.*

