



Pre-Planning

*A step-by-step guide to help prepare for
your pet's journey to the Rainbow Bridge.*



Live Oak

P E T S E R V I C E S

www.liveoakpetservices.com

Taking the First Step in Pre-Planning:

It takes a courageous person to look ahead at the inevitable passing of a beloved pet, but that courage also shows your commitment to being a loving and responsible pet care giver. To help ease that difficult time, Live Oak Pet Services has put together this short guide to help you prepare for that inescapable day when you must part company and grow into accepting their heroic journey to the rainbow bridge. We understand it's difficult and no one wants to ponder that day, however by taking the preparatory steps now, it can ease many burdens, protect you from having to make difficult decisions during an emotional time and ultimately give you a greater peace-of-mind.

First, it's important to understand that today you have choices about how you wish to care for your pet's

physical remains, celebrate their life, and pay tribute to their memory. This is a conversation to include the entire family. It can be a powerful experience that can bring a family together in a way unlike any other. Our hope is that this guide and the recommended conversations included can give you the time to reflect upon what is meaningful in caring for your pet. This time will also ensure that they receive the kind of care in death that was so important to you during their lifetime.

We are confident pre-planning will help to relieve much of the stress and heartache you and your family will feel on the day you are forced to say good bye to your beloved pet until the day they are waiting for you to reunite on the Rainbow Bridge.

Capturing Memories: *Take a few minutes to write down a few key memories you'll want to have of your pet.*

Birth date/Adoption Date: _____ Birth or Adoption Location: _____
Nicknames: _____ Favorite Food: _____
Favorite Toy(s): _____ Favorite Activities: _____
Least Favorite Thing(s): _____ Favorite Place to Sleep: _____
Favorite Memory: _____

Veterinarian Information: *Please supply the information below in case we need to work with your veterinarian's clinic.*

Primary Veterinary Clinic Name: _____
Your Veterinarian's Name: _____
Clinic Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Clinic Contact Phone: _____
Clinic Contact Person: _____

Creating a Remembrance Ceremony:

Many families wish to have a remembrance service, where family and friends can come together in mutual support and sorrow. It is a great way to talk and remember all the wonderful times you shared with your pet.

Do you wish to have a service of remembrance for your pet? ☐ Yes ☐ No

You can incorporate many wonderful ceremonial activities during this time. Consider the following options:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special readings of poetry or prose | <input type="checkbox"/> Favorite Music |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The planting of a tree/flower/bush | <input type="checkbox"/> Scripture readings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Candle lighting | <input type="checkbox"/> A charitable donation drive in memory of your pet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Writing, and reading aloud a eulogy | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A memory table with photographs, your pet's favorite toys — anything tangible that was a big part of their life | |

Type Of Cremation Desired:

As a full-service pet aftercare provider, we offer 3 forms of cremation. Choose from Private, Memorial and Witness cremations. Learn about each option below and choose the option that works best for you.

☐ **Private Cremation:**

This form of cremation means that your pet is placed individually into the cremation chamber and is separate from any other pets. The remains are then returned to you in your selected urn. This includes the gentle pick up of your pet at your veterinary hospital or home, the private cremation process, placing the cremated remains in the urn and hand delivered back to the veterinary hospital or home to be reunited with your family. A certificate of cremation and grief package is issued with every private cremation.

- ☐ I would like the Complimentary Urn
☐ I would like the Premium Urn Upgrade

☐ **Memorial Cremation:**

This form of cremation means that your pet is cremated in a group setting with other pets. Our services include the gentle pick up of your pet at your veterinary hospital or home and the cremation services. This option maintains a high level of dignity at a modest cost. Pet ashes are not returned unless requested, but are buried under the Live Oak's signature oak tree in our Memorial Garden on the family's farm.

(Memorial creation may be a better option for your budget. Contact our staff to get more information)

- ☐ I would like a granite burial marker
☐ I would like the Premium Upgrade

☐ **Witness Cremation:**

Available with a private cremation. Our facility is thoughtfully designed for the comfort of our clients in their time of grieving. We offer a private viewing area for those who wish to witness their loved one's cremation (by appointment). The staff at Live Oak assures you that your special family member will be handled in a gentle and respectful manner.

(It's a good idea to create a list of people close to you that you would like to have present at the cremation.)

- ☐ I would like the Complimentary Urn
☐ I would like the Premium Urn Upgrade

Memorialize Your Pet:

We want you to celebrate your beloved pet. At Live Oak we offer a large selection of memorialization options that allow you to keep your pet's memory alive and with you forever. Simply visit our website at www.liveoakpetservices.com and select from our many options. Check the box below and fill in the product information below.

- Do you wish to create a memorial in commemoration of your animal companion? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Ideally, where would you like this memorial? ☐ Inside my home ☐ In my garden ☐ Other:

(If "other", please specify your desired location): _____

Select from our many urn or keepsakes at www.liveoakpetservices.com and record it below:

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Standard Urn | <input type="checkbox"/> Premium Urn | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Urn | <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramic Urn |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brass Urn | <input type="checkbox"/> Figurine Urn | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor marker | <input type="checkbox"/> Clay Paw Print |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Keepsake Pendant | <input type="checkbox"/> Crystal Jewelry | <input type="checkbox"/> Live Gem Diamond | <input type="checkbox"/> 3D Laser Etched Crystal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Stone | <input type="checkbox"/> Memory Box | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (Please List) | |

Product Manufacturer's Name: _____

Product Name: _____

Product Number: _____

Product Description: _____

Do you want a personalized Inscription: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Inscription Message: _____

Congratulations!

Now that you've completed this guide — Place a copy in your pet's file for safekeeping, when the day comes that you need our services, you will have the information already on hand allowing you to grieve properly.

Also, by planning ahead for your pet's final needs, you:

- Protected your family from having to make difficult decisions during an emotional time
- Carefully weighed out options including cremation, special services and memorialization products
- Determined your family's needs and budget ahead of time
- Finalized your pet's cremation pre-arrangements, eliminating hastily made decisions and later regrets

And in planning ahead, you are continuing to give your pet the kind of lifelong care they so richly deserve.

A life where every gesture, every action taken on your part is intended to add quality to their day-to-day life.

Do you know the right questions to ask?

We've compiled a few of the most frequently asked questions that you should know when you are planning. We invite you to ask them to our staff throughout the pre-planning process

- *May I inspect the facility where my pet's aftercare will be performed?*
- *What is your cremation verification procedure?*
- *How long will it take to get my pet back?*
- *Does the facility provide individual cremation, where only one animal is cremated at a time?*
- *How does private cremation compare to communal cremation?*
- *What do cremation services cost?*
- *Will you come to our home, to pick up our pet?*
- *Is there an additional charge for this?*
- *Can you pick up my pet from my vet or animal hospital?*
- *How will my pet be transported to your facility?*
- *How and where is my pet kept until they are cremated?*
- *How do I know that I am only getting my pet's remains back?*
- *What kind of container will my pet's remains be placed in if I decide not to purchase an urn?*
- *How long does it take from the time my pet is picked up until we can pick up the cremated remains?*
- *Besides the cremation, what else is provided with your cremation services?*

Here are some other things to consider when pre-planning for your pet:

- Will you want a keepsake such as a paw print or nose print impression?
- Will you want to have a Memorial Service in our private memorial room?
- Is there a favorite toy or blanket you wish to be cremated with your pet?
- Will you want to keep or scatter your pet's remains?
- Would you want keepsakes, such as special jewelry?
- Personalized inscription on the Urn, and/or Memorial stone?
- Would you want a Personalized Memorial Chest to keep all your pet's memory items in for safekeeping?
- If you create a life celebration event, a few things you might include:
guests you would like to attend, music, DVD, pictures, poems, etc.



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