

## Home Burial Tips

*There are many ways to bury your beloved pet.*

*Here are a few tips that we have found helpful over the years:*

- Check your county or township ordinances for restrictions. If you are renting, you will want to get approval from your landlord
- Call your local utilities office, #811 (MissDig), to come out and mark your yard. There may be gas lines or water lines buried under ground. You may need to do this several days in advance to give them time to come out.
- Wrap your loved one in a blanket, t-shirt, or pillow case. Avoid plastics as they can slow down the natural process of absorption back into the earth. If you are interested in something more substantial, Pawpods.com has eco-friendly burial pods you can purchase and place your pet in.
- Burial Bags are another option. Our Heaven at Home doctor will have those with her at your visit, they are \$25. You can snuggle your fur baby into the pouch and tuck in any favorite toys or small blanket with them and it zips closed and keeps them safe. The bag will biodegrade over a long period of time.
- Make sure you dig deep enough - an adequate depth is three to five feet. This should be deep enough to prevent other animals from investigating the area and digging up your friend. Remember that after euthanasia medications are administered, a pet's body is deadly to other animals. You may want to place a headstone or decorative piece to discourage digging.
- Place at least two feet of soil on top of the body.
- If you elect to have your pet cremated then buried, using an organic soil mixture along with the cremains will create a nutrient-rich mixture that will benefit the earth and help plants around the burial site flourish. (Burying cremains with no mixture can be too concentrated in carbon to allow for proper growth.)
- If you need to delay the burial, you may want to place your pet's body in an air tight plastic container and put your pet in a cool location or a refrigerator or, if it will be a longer delay, a freezer.

