



# INDIAN RIVER MOBILE VETERINARY SERVICES

## **Guidelines for home burial of euthanized pets**

It is important to bury your pet in a way that eliminates the possibility of scavenging by wildlife. Nobody wants that for their beloved pet and as equally important, the drugs used in the euthanasia process are poisonous to wildlife!

Dig down deep enough that you will have a minimum of 2 feet of soil on top of your pet.

Place a large stone in the ground before you fill the hole with dirt. Or if you cannot lay 1 large rock, several smaller rocks can be used.

Fill hole until about 6 inches remain. Sprinkle around 1 inch of scented cat litter before filling the rest with soil.

After the grave is packed with rocks and soil, place another large rock on top. This can act as a natural marker stone.

Plant a tree over the grave. This denies wild animals access and a flowering tree can be a beautiful reminder of the circle of life.

If you have a shortage of rocks the hole will need to be deep enough to allow at least 3 feet of soil.

Any coverings should be biodegradable. Consider a wicker or wooden casket. These are not harmful to the environment and keep you precious furry family member safe from scavengers.

Keep our environment safe. Graves should be at least 50 feet away from any source of water.

In areas where digging a hole deep or larger enough is not possible, private cremation and subsequent burial of the urn is the safest option.

**\*\*IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT BURIAL OF EUTHANIZED ANIMALS\*\***

The euthanasia solution stays stable in your pet, even after it has passed for an extremely long time. These drugs are harmful to the environment and wildlife. By law you must disclose the presence of euthanized animals buried on the property at time of sale.