

Ashes interments, plaques and memorials



Ashes interments

Council offers interment services of ashes but does not offer cremations. Please discuss cremation services with your funeral director or local crematorium.

After a cremation has taken place, council can assist families who are making the choice of the resting place of their loved one's ashes. Ashes interments can be arranged either directly through council or through a funeral home. The online form to schedule an ashes interment can be found on council's website.



Ashes interments, plaques and memorials

Columbarium wall

A single or double niche can be purchased either at the time of interment, or reserved in advance (applications can be made online on council's website).

Ashes are placed inside the niche in an urn or alternate box organised through the crematorium. All niches are enclosed with a brass plaque. A small vase that adheres to the wall can also be purchased to hold flowers. (Available at all cemeteries except Mackay)

Ashes burials in plots

Ashes can be buried into a new or existing plot with the permission of the deed holder or authorised family representative.

Mount Bassett Garden of Memories

Mount Bassett has memorial gardens called the Garden of Memories – sites in the Garden of Memories can be purchased either as memorial only or for an additional fee, ashes can be interred at the purchased site.

Applications can be made online either at the time of interment or reserved in advance. Purchase of the site includes a basic formica plaque to commemorate your loved one.



Columbarium wall at Mount Bassett

However, you may opt to upgrade to a brass or brass coloured plaque for an additional fee. Plaques can take between 6-8 weeks to arrive.

Scattering of ashes

The scattering of ashes is permitted in all council cemeteries, however council do ask that ashes are not scattered over the top of any headstone or monument.

Should you wish to have the ashes scattering recorded in council's database, an application will need to be made and the appropriate fee paid. For further information on this please contact council on 1300 622 529 or email council@mackay.qld.gov.au.

Vases

For columbarium wall niches, a small vase that adheres to the wall can be purchased to

hold flowers – one vase for a single niche and either one (centred) or two (on either end) vases for a double niche.

Vases are narrow and are able to hold a thick stem or small bouquet of either fresh or artificial flowers.

Ashes interment set up

Staff will prepare the niche/site prior to the family arriving for the funeral/interment.

This will include digging out the site (if ashes to be interred in grave), the family can either arrange to place the soil back over when finished, or alternatively cemetery staff will fill in after the family has left. Cemetery staff will organise (if available) seating and a sun cover for the interment. Families are welcome to bring additional seating and music.

Ashes interments, plaques and memorials

Plaque options

All plaques for Mackay Regional Council cemeteries must be ordered through council.

You should allow up to six weeks for delivery. Alternatively, you may choose not to order a plaque at the time of purchasing the niche and the plaque may be ordered at a later date.

Columbarium walls

The cost of a plaque is included in the purchase cost of the columbarium niche/s and the plaque size is determined by the size of the niches at the applicable columbarium wall.

You may choose the plaque colour and graphics when ordering plaques for columbarium walls (all cemeteries). The cost of the plaque is included in the niche purchase cost for columbarium walls.

Garden of Memories

The standard formica plaque which is included in the cost when purchasing a plot at the Garden of Memories cannot have any graphics, colour choices or photos and can contain only five lines of text.

The size of the plaque is 75mm x 50mm. Upgrades to a coloured or brass plaque for the Garden



Columbarium wall niches

of Memories is available, and an additional charge applies. The plaque can only be to maximum size of 150mm x 200mm.

Photos on plaques

You may choose to have a photo placed on the brass or coloured plaques.

Photos cannot be placed on the formica plaques at the Garden of Memories; but may be adhered to a headstone, if required.

To have a photo included on a brass or coloured plaque, or on the headstone in the Garden of Memories, contact a stone mason to prepare the photograph first.

Council requires information about the photo's placement on the plaque and size prior to the order for the plaque being made – this ensures that the appropriate space is allowed for the photo on the plaque.

Brass and coloured plaques

Please refer to the plaque options to see information on the colours and graphics available for these plaques, as well as information regarding war service emblems on plaques.

The graphics and colours are not available for the standard formica plaque, which is included in the purchase of a plot in the Garden of Memories at Mount Bassett Lawn Cemetery.

For more information phone council on 1300 MACKAY (1300 622 529) or visit the website mackay.qld.gov.au