

Columbarium and Niche Information

In Woodlawn Cemetery, a columbarium is an above ground structure specifically designed to hold urns containing cremated remains. Similar in purpose to a mausoleum (which holds non-cremated remains), the columbarium is a sacred final resting place and should be treated with the same respect.

A niche is an individual compartment in a columbarium. At Woodlawn Cemetery the interior dimensions are 11" deep, 10 1/2" wide and 10 1/2" high in Columbarium 6, and 14" deep, 12.5" wide and 12.5" high in Columbarium 7.

Two sets of ashes are permitted. However, it is the responsibility of the family and funeral director to ensure that the urns will fit within the niche. There is a risk of condensation entering the niche space. Woodlawn Cemetery strongly recommends the use of a non-biodegradable container for all cremated remains placed in the niches.

When purchasing a niche, you are purchasing the "interment rights" for that space – the right to place cremated remains inside in perpetuity. You acquire no other interest or rights in the niche, columbaria or cemetery. The entire structure remains the sole property of Woodlawn Cemetery. This is a provincial law and applies to all grave space in all cemeteries in Ontario.

The memorial used on the front of the niche is a bronze wreath. They will all have a consistent design and must be ordered through Woodlawn Cemetery.

You may decorate the front of the niche with a small floral bouquet (spike) and/or a porcelain photo. Other forms of decoration, such as taping or gluing items to the niche front are not permitted. Porcelain photos and floral spikes can be ordered through the office.

Fresh flowers can be placed at the columbaria, however, the flowers will be removed when they start to dry.