



4.2 Coomalie Bush Cemetery

Council Resolution:	19/03/2013/007
Date to take effect:	19/03/2013
Legislative reference:	<i>Cemeteries Act 1952</i> <i>Cemetery Regulations 1967</i> <i>Northern Territory Local Government Act 2008</i>
Review Date	1 August 2023

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set out Council's guidelines for the management of the Coomalie Bush Cemetery.

2. Definitions

For the purposes of this policy:

Interment The placement of human remains directly into the earth.

Burial site a plot site

Breakable containers Any vase or other item made of glass, ceramics, or brittle plastics.

Memorial Any structure, whether a mausoleum, monument, vault, tombstone, headstone, gravestone, plaque, kerbing or other construction placed on, or around an interment site.

3. Principle

Coomalie Community Government Council aims to efficiently and effectively manage and maintain the Coomalie Bush Cemetery with dignity and respect to meet the needs of its community.

4. Policy Statement

4.1 General

Any person may purchase a right to inter in a burial site at Coomalie Bush Cemetery by applying to Council, paying the fee set by Council, and complying with all Council Policies and Procedures.

4.2 Reservations

A person can reserve a selected site of interment for a reservation fee set by Council in the annual fees and charges schedule. This fee is non refundable. A reservation is valid for a period of 4 years, by which time the full purchase price for interment rights must be made. If the reservation period of 4 years has been exceeded and the full purchase price has not been paid, the reservation will lapse.

Prior to policy update 15/12/2020/004 reservations did not expire. Council will honour this arrangement for reservations existing prior to this update.

Council has resolved that there be a time limit for reservations of 70 years, although they could be renewable.

4.3 Interments

Council shall not allow the interment of a body or ashes except in the particular burial site or niche allocated by Council.

Council will issue **Certificates of Exclusive Rights of Burial Site** where such has been granted and fees paid in full.

Council will issue **Certificate of Reservation in the Columbarium** where such has been granted and fees paid in full.

4.4 Second Interment

Subject to access, selected grave sites may be reopened for later interment. This will be costed at the relevant interment cost and may incur excess costs subject to accessibility to the site for excavation plant. Second interment is only possible when the first interment was excavated to a depth of 2.3 metres and an Exclusive Right of Burial has been issued.

4.5 Cemetery Registers

Council will keep the following registers:

1. Burial sites
2. Niche sites
3. Permits issued

4.6 Coomalie Bush Cemetery Plan

Council shall keep a plan of the Cemetery with the location of each plot allotment and columbarium niche.

The Cemetery is divided into two areas:

1. Burial sites
2. Niche plots

4.7 Cemetery Fees

The Cemetery fees are reviewed annually and published on Councils website.

Fees include:

- Burial site (child under 12 half price)
- Site to dispose of ashes (child under 12 half price) in Columbarium or Niche Wall
- Reservation of Plot or Site
- Reservation fees are deducted from the outright plot or site fee.
- Fees include the digging of a burial site or plot for ashes.

- Fees include the installation of a plaque on the columbarium wall.
- Fees do not include headstones, plaques, urns etc. Plaques and headstones are not sourced by Council.

4.8 Specifications for Interment Sites

Council shall have the control of the digging of all burial sites and plots for ashes in the cemetery.

A burial site in the Coomalie Bush Cemetery shall be of a depth of not less than:

- 5 feet (1.5 metres) for children less than 8 years of age;
- 6 feet (1.8 metres) in any other case other than a double burial which will be
- 7 feet 6 inches (2.3 metres) and the upper surface of the coffin nearest the normal level of the ground must be at least 750 millimetres below that level.

Preparing Niche in Columbarium

The niches in the columbarium have a cover on them which needs to be removed in preparation for an interment. Once the ashes have been placed in the niche the cover needs to be attached. Plaques are installed by Council staff.

4.9 Hours of Burial

The hours for burial are 8.30 am to 5.30 pm.

No services are permitted between sunset and sunrise on any day.

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