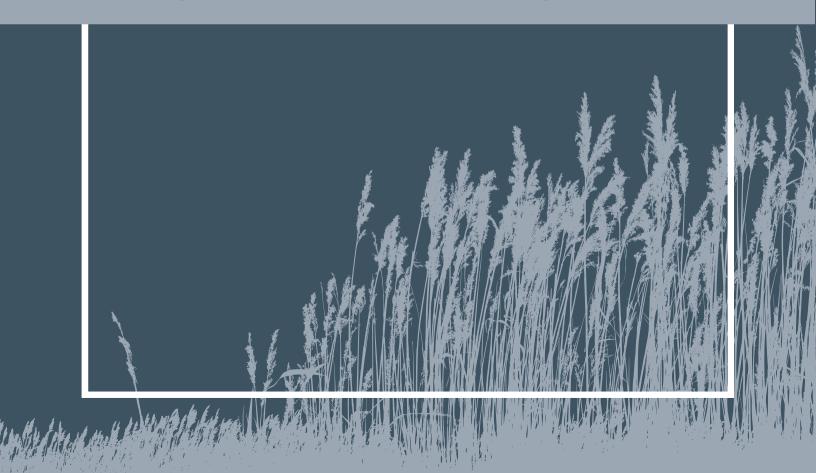


### Information & Planning Guide



# A Lasting Legacy...

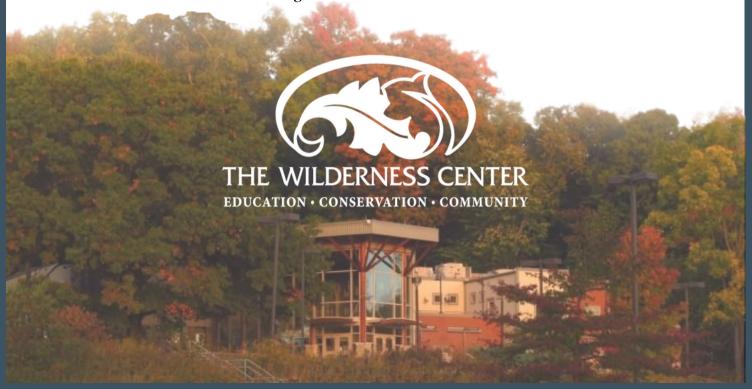
Foxfield Preserve is operated by The Wilderness Center (TWC), a nonprofit nature center and land conservancy with a mission to connect our community with nature, educate people of all ages, conserve natural resources and practice environmental stewardship. Founded in 1964, TWC has a long history of providing unique opportunities for our community to connect with the natural world.

Located on 629 acres representing four types of ecosystems, the headquarters tract of TWC offers an Interpretive Building with classrooms, exhibits, and offices, an Astronomy Education Building with a planetarium and observatory, and a maintenance building. A lake, pond, prairie, forest, and two streams are accessed by six nature trails. Currently, TWC owns a total of 3,380 acres scattered in Stark, Wayne, Carroll, Tuscarawas, Guernsey, and Holmes counties. Beyond our headquarters, we are protecting nearly 15,000 acres statewide. Additionally, thousands of trees have been planted through various programs and initiatives throughout Ohio.

TWC has provided nature programs to children and adults since 1964. Our education program provides hands-on, outdoor-based experiences for people of all ages to study and appreciate nature, encouraging enjoyment and responsible stewardship of the natural world. Since 2018, over 30,000 students have received nature education and over 300 volunteer naturalists have been trained.

Proceeds from the sale of burial plots at Foxfield support TWC's non-profit operations, including nature education, habitat improvement, and community services.

Please visit www. Wilderness Center.org to learn more.



## Testimonials

"Each visit to Foxfield Preserve is special, moving, and healing. Foxfield is peaceful, an oasis that encourages tranquil thoughts and fond memories. Every time I visit Foxfield I thank Laura for bringing me to such a wonderful place - feel it is a gift from her each time I visit."

- Ken Buzzeli, Brecksville

"We enjoy the outdoors. We like our fruit trees and our vegetable garden. We have a compost heap. In light of this, it makes sense for us to let our bodies return to the soil naturally. We prefer our fruits and vegetables without chemicals, and it makes no sense to have our bodies pumped full of chemicals after we die. We believe that planning ahead is a gift to surviving loved ones... When the time comes, our loved ones can take comfort in knowing that we are exactly where we want to be, overlooking the rolling hills of northeast Ohio."

- Roberta Angerman, Wooster

"I was struck immediately with the 'rightness' of the Foxfield concept!... it sounded perfect to my ears!"

- Marge Thomas, Wooster

"From the first visit, Ken and I were struck by the beauty and peacefulness of the location. The site is now a very sacred place for us, our extended family, and our closest friends. Many have visited and all have shared their powerful experiences of peace and understanding. The children and I have been able to plant a special tree at the forest site, and we have made many trips back...I often feel Ken's presence when we visit."

-Amy L. Lee, Westlake

If you would like to share your Foxfield Preserve experience, please contact us.



### Frequently Asked Questions

### What is a conservation burial ground?

A nature preserve cemetery bears little resemblance to a conventional cemetery. There are no manicured lawns or rows of headstones. Foxfield Preserve is a nature preserve first - trails meander through forest and prairie, and naturalists are restoring the site by planting native prairie grasses, wildflowers, and trees.

### What type of burials are permitted at Foxfield Preserve?

We allow only natural burials (also referred to as "green burial"). In a natural burial a person is laid to rest in a biodegradable container such as a wooden casket, shroud, or cardboard cremation container. They are not embalmed and no vaults are used. Foxfield Preserve requests dressing the body in natural fibers such as cotton or wool. The goal is to embrace the natural cycle of life and limit our environmental impact on the earth. It is the true "dust to dust" form of burial. This is how most people were buried throughout the ages. The use of concrete vaults and embalming are relatively new concepts, only becoming popular in the U.S. during the Civil War.

### Is natural (green) burial legal?

Yes. Most of what you may think is law is either rules of individual cemeteries or common practice. There is no law that a vault must be used, though many cemeteries require this for ease of maintenance and closer spacing. Embalming is only required under rare circumstances (A few states require embalming if a body is transported by common carrier or won't be buried within a certain amount of time).

### Doesn't embalming preserve a body for all time?

No. It only slows decomposition for a short time.

### Can I have a viewing if the body is not embalmed?

This is something to discuss with your funeral director. Policies for viewing unembalmed remains vary from funeral home to funeral home. Refrigeration and dry ice are methods of temporary preservation that some funeral homes are willing to allow.

### Can we bury or scatter cremated remains?

Yes. Foxfield Preserve welcomes cremated remains, with no restrictions on where they are interred. If someone wishes to simply scatter ashes, there are areas of Foxfield Preserve designated for scatterings. Scattering outside of designated areas is strictly prohibited.



### Frequently Asked Questions

### What type of grave markers will be permitted?

Grave markers are permitted and are required to be natural stones, such as granite or high-quality sandstone. They cannot be polished and should have the appearance of natural stone. They may be engraved. Stones must lie flat on the ground, cannot extend more than 3 inches above the ground and should not exceed 216 sq inches (12" x 18") of surface area. Grave markers are considered optional at Foxfield Preserve.

### How large are the plots at Foxfield Preserve?

The plots at Foxfield Preserve are much larger than those at a conventional cemetery, to lessen our impact on the landscape. Our plots are 10 feet X 20 feet and are suitable for the interment of one casket, one casket and one set of cremated remains, or two sets of cremated remains

### How deep are the graves?

Graves are 3.5 ft deep (six feet under is a bit of a myth). Since vaults are not used, the soil is mounded over the grave and it is usually level again in about a year. This depth ensures that remains are undisturbed and return quickly to nature.

### Does natural burial negatively effect water quality?

No. Natural land produces cleaner water than urban, suburban, or agricultural areas. The forest and prairie watershed at Foxfield Preserve will provide cleaner water for the Sugar Creek watershed.

### Can my family dig the grave?

No. Hand digging a grave is very hard labor and requires skills few people possess. Family and friends are welcome to close the grave. Families who have closed graves have found it to be a powerful experience. The Foxfield Preserve staff will be on hand to supervise and assist with each closing.

### May we have a funeral at The Wilderness Center?

All graveside services are welcome at Foxfield Preserve. However, the Wilderness Center's Interpretive Building does not host funerals. Indoor services are best handled by professionals or the family. Rooms at the Interpretive Building may be available to rent for meals or receptions following the interment. Families often enjoy holding a memorial in a Wilderness Center picnic shelter during good weather when everyone can see Foxfield Preserve and enjoy walking the trails.



### Frequently Asked Questions

### Is natural (green) burial against anyone's religion?

Natural burial is in keeping with the most ancient burial traditions. While it is difficult to say for sure, we know that natural burial does not conflict with any major religions and is a requirement for some faiths.

### How will the cemetery be maintained?

Remember, it is a nature preserve so there will be very little maintenance compared to a typical lawn-type cemetery. The trails will be maintained to provide easy access to the site and hazardous trees will be removed. If Foxfield Preserve looks like a conventional cemetery, we have failed. It will look like forest and prairie.

### How will families locate gravesites at Foxfield Preserve?

Ohio law requires Foxfield Preserve to keep careful records of precise burial locations. These records will be kept on paper and electronically. Interment sites can be located precisely by measurements from survey pins. GPS coordinates are recorded for every gravesite; handheld GPS units usually track to about 15 feet at Foxfield Preserve. Even without a memorial stone, the gravesite can be located.

### Can I plant a tree or flower on my plot?

A native tree or wildflower may be planted on certain sites. Plantings must coincide with our site restoration goals and be suitable for the site. The Steward has an approved species list and can help with choosing a memorial planting.

#### How can I learn more about natural burial and Foxfield Preserve?

You may attend one of our monthly informational sessions offered online, or call our office to arrange a meeting. For further information about the natural burial movement, we suggest visiting the Green Burial Council's website, www.GreenBurialCouncil.org, or reading the book "Grave Matters" by Mark Harris.





### Services & Pricing

Beyond the many environmental benefits, a natural burial can also be less costly than conventional burial. By forgoing the use of embalming, expensive caskets, and concrete vaults, the *overall total cost* will be lesser. Additionally, you may support the conservation efforts and educational programs of The Wilderness Center through a tax-deductible donation. A percentage of each sale is also contributed to a perpetual care fund.

### Rights of Interment

Burial rights, meaning the legal ability to conduct an interment on the chosen plot, are limited to two (2) for each plot at Foxfield Preserve. Therefore, each plot at Foxfield Preserve can accommodate the following: one full casket and one set of cremains, or two sets of cremains. A plot purchase conveys Rights of Interment (ROI) to the purchaser/assignee, and Second Rights are conveyed when purchased as an addition.

### Purchased At Time of Death

Rights of Interment: \$4,000 \*Includes a \$2,000 donation\* Second Rights: \$250

#### Purchased in Advanced (in-full)

Rights of Interment: \$3,200
\*Includes a \$1,600 donation\*
Second Rights: \$250

Prices do not include the cost of transportation and funeral home fees. All payment is due prior to a burial service.

### **Burial Preparations**

The preparation fee is due at the time of the interment. This fee cannot be paid in advance to Foxfield. Burial preparations include the cost of opening and closing the grave, genealogical archiving, and site maintenance. *No interments will be scheduled on Sundays, Christmas Day, Thanksgiving Day, Independence Day or New Years Day.* 

### <u>Full Body Burial Preparations</u>

Mon-Fri (During Business Hours): \$1,300 Mon-Fri (After Hours): \$1,550 Saturdays (Before 12PM)\*: \$1,550\*

\*Pricing subject to change if Saturday service is scheduled after 12PM. Please call Foxfield Preserve for assistance.\*

#### Cremated Remains Burial Preparations

Mon-Fri (During Business Hours): \$500 Mon-Fri (After Hours): \$500 Saturdays: \$500 Holidays: \$500



Effective 03/01/2023



### Services & Pricing

### Payment Plans

Those making advance arrangements to purchase a cemetery space have the option to make payments over a 24-month installment plan. By opting for the installment plan, the base price of \$3,500 can be divided into easy-to-manage monthly payments. This plan requires an up-front, non-refundable payment on the first month's dues. These payments can be arranged to be automatically charged to your credit card, or submitted by personal check. Payments are due the first of every month unless other arrangements are made.

### Scatterings

Scatterings are permitted in designated areas of the preserve, either on a purchased plot or in our Valley View scattering garden. Scattering on a plot allows the purchaser to place a memorial stone on the plot and conduct memorial plantings. The Valley View scattering garden is a shared space, so no placement of a memorial stone or planting is permitted. Scattering outside of these areas is strictly prohibited.

#### Scattering on a Plot

Scattering Plot Rights: \$3,200
\*Includes a \$1,600 donation\*
Site Preparation: \$250
Second Scattering Rights: \$250

#### Scattering in Valley View

Scattering Rights: \$250

#### Additional Services

Memorial Locating and Inspection Fee: \$150

Must meet stone or native species requirements as set forth in cemetery rules and regulations; waived if using our preferred providers.

Transfer of Interment Rights: \$100

Disinterment: \$3,000

Archaeology fees may also apply.

### Accepted Forms of Payment

We accept cash, checks, and credit cards.



*Effective 03/01/2023* 

### Comparison to Modern Burial

When comparing costs for natural burial at Foxfield Preserve with modern burial, it may be important to understand potential added expenses that may be required by other providers. Natural burial eliminates or reduces many expenses associated with modern burial practices.

	Foxfield Preserve	Modern Burial
Cemetery Space	\$3,200 for interment rights \$250 for second rights	\$500 - \$2,000
Concrete Vault	None	\$1,500-\$2,500
Casket	\$500 or less	\$4,000 and up for metal caksets
Embalming Fee	None	\$1,000 and up
Total	\$3,700 (\$250 for second rights)	\$7,000 and up

Perhaps the greatest benefit of natural burial at Foxfield Preserve is the legacy you leave for future generations. For many, the spiritual benefits of visits to a nature preserve cemetery compared to a lawn type cemetery cannot be estimated.



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### Meeting with a Funeral Director

You may find a range of attitudes toward Foxfield Preserve and natural (green) burial among funeral directors. You will be best served by a funeral director who shares your enthusiasm for natural burial in a nature preserve. If you want a nature preserve as your final resting place, you should carefully select a provider and review the information below with them. Encourage the provider to contact Foxfield Preserve with any questions.

### Information/Items to Review

- Any good provider can accommodate your wishes, without presenting roadblocks to natural burial. Foxfield
  Preserve has worked with many funeral directors to provide natural burials. Foxfield Preserve's website has a
  listing of providers certified by the Green Burial Council.
- Family cannot be denied the right to view the body. If a public viewing is important to you, discuss it with your provider in advance. No law requires embalming. However many funeral homes require some form of temporary preservation for a public viewing or a funeral with the body present. Options include:
  - Refrigeration—most funeral homes either have refrigeration or access to refrigeration.
  - Nontoxic embalming chemicals are available and effective.
  - The most progressive funeral homes provide even more alternatives.
- Foxfield Preserve requires biodegradable caskets, shrouds, or urns: wood, cardboard or natural fiber cloth. These
  can be acquired overnight if the funeral home does not have them in stock.
  - For wood, Foxfield Preserve prefers unfinished/unpainted, solid wood. Metal nails, screws, and other fasteners are acceptable to Foxfield Preserve, though wooden joinery is preferred.
  - Cardboard "minimum containers" (as they are referred to in the funeral service) normally used for cremation are suitable for burial with reinforcement. The container holding the body must be sturdy and have handles for carrying the deceased to the gravesite. It should fully support the weight of the body. Many burials at Foxfield have been in stronger cardboard containers.
  - Burial shrouds must fully support the body and be made of natural fibers.
- Foxfield Preserve requests that bodies be dressed in natural fibers.
- Artificial joints, implanted medical devices, plastic buttons, and similar items are biologically inert and are
  acceptable at Foxfield Preserve.
- People who attend a graveside ceremony at Foxfield Preserve should be advised to avoid high heels and to be
  prepared to walk a short distance in a nature preserve.
- Each site at Foxfield Preserve can accommodate one full casket and one cremation interment or two cremation interments.
- Memorial stones are optional; only one marker per site is permitted.





### Memorials

As a nature preserve cemetery, we take a different approach to memorials at Foxfield Preserve. In keeping with the nature preserve philosophy of Foxfield, we want to preserve the natural appearance of the cemetery. Therefore we allow specific memorials that fall within our specifications. If your family would like to include a memorial, please review our requirements.

#### **Memorial Stones**

Foxfield Preserve will accept a variety of natural stones types so long as they preserve the scenic and natural quality of the site. They may not exceed 216 square inches (approximately  $12 \times 18$  inches) in size. They must lay flat or be partially buried and not extend more than 3-inches above the surface of the soil. They should not be polished, and sawed stone should be prepared to appear more natural. They should have natural appearing irregular edges rather than a square-cut appearance.

Only one memorial stone is permitted for each 10 X 20 foot burial site. Stones may be engraved, but must remain simple in appearance (photographs, electronics, sound, etc. is not permitted). Foxfield Preserve may reject/remove memorials that do not meet the specifications. People select Foxfield Preserve because it is a nature preserve

### Living Memorials

Many families will forego a stone marker, preferring to plant a living memorial to commemorate their loved one. If this is your preference, please remember that Foxfield Preserve is limited to native species. As many nurseries use the same or similar names for non-native species, it is best to go through Foxfield Preserve or The Wilderness Center to acquire species for planting. Prior approval is required before trees may be planted.

Foxfield Preserve cannot accept ball stock trees with balls weighing more than 75 pounds. Larger, heavier balls require equipment to transport and plant, and this equipment would cause unnecessary disturbance to the cemetery. In most cases, smaller trees will achieve a size comparable to larger ball stock trees within a few years.

The Wilderness Center's annual Native Plant Sale is an appropriate place to purchase native wildflower species to plant on the Preserve. Foxfield Preserve hosts an annual Native Tree Planting event in late fall, which is the best time to plant a tree. The Foxfield Preserve staff will discourage tree planting at other times to increase the likelihood of survival. Order forms are available several weeks prior to each event.





### Memorial Stone Providers

You may select the provider of your choice, however, the providers below understand Foxfield Preserve's standards. If you select another vendor, they should contact Foxfield Preserve to be sure the memorial they create is acceptable. Memorial stones are optional at Foxfield Preserve.

### Standing Stone Gardenworks

We are a local couple from Navarre that enjoys our craft, working with natural stone. We make unique garden items at our home, as well as memorial stones for Foxfield Preserve. We provide a selection of natural stones, fonts, and silhouette pictures to choose from. Pricing starts at \$300.00, which includes a draft before final engraving. Silhouette images are an additional fee. Delivery and placement are available for \$50.00.

Celia Durant 330-936-2116 cbd109@gmail.com



### Midwest Everlasting Memorials

Midwest Everlasting Memorials is a full-service and family-owned monument company located just south of Wadsworth, Ohio. We have in stock a selection of natural and unpolished stones for the Foxfield Preserve family. All of our products are engraved onsite, and they are delivered and installed at the Foxfield Preserve. Our prices range from \$295.00 and up depending on the type of material selected. We provide a computerized proof for each customer so they will know exactly what their stone with look like prior to engraving.

Midwest Everlasting Memorials 1244 High Street Wadsworth, OH 44281 330-334-1988 MidwestEverlastingMemorials.com







### Approved Species List

#### Trees

Black Walnut Juglans nigra	Nut crop; grows large
Butternut Juglans cinerea	Nut crop; uncommon
Pignut Hickory Carya glabra	Nut crop; grows large
Bitternut (Yellow Bud) Hickory Carya cordiformis	Nut crop; grows large
Shagbark Hickory <i>Carya ovata</i>	Nut crop; grows large
Red Oak Quercus rubra	Acorns; grows large
Scarlet Oak Quercus coccinea	
White Oak Quercus alba	Acorns; grows large
Shingle Oak Quercus imbricaria	Acorns; grows large
Black Oak Quercus velutina	
Swamp White Oak Quercus bicolor	. Acorns; grows large; wet sites
Sugar Maple Acer saccharum	Autumn foliage; grows large
Black Gum Nyssa sylvatic	Attractive foliage and berries
Cucumber Magnolia Magnolia acuminata	
Tulip Poplar Liriodendron tulipifera	Flowers; rapid growth
Black Cherry Prunus serotina	Cherries
Serviceberry Amelachier arborea or laevis	Flowers; berries
American Beech Fagus grandifolia	Nut crop; smooth bark
Sassafras Sassafras albidum	
American Sycamore Plantanus occidentalis	

### Shrubs/Understory Trees

Alternate-leaf Dogwood Cornus alternifolia	Berries
Flowering Dogwood Cornus florida	Flowers; berries
Common Spicebush Lindera benzoin	Berries; foliage; scent
PawPaw Asimina triloba	Foliage; fruit
Nannyberry Viburnum lentago	Berries
Smooth Blackhaw Viburnum prunifolium	Berries
Winterberry Ilex verticillata	Berries

 ${\it Please\ visit\ www. Wilderness Center.org\ to\ see\ a\ full\ list\ of\ native\ flowers.}$ 



### Condensed Rules & Regulations

#### **Burials**

**Embalming:** Remains should not be embalmed with toxic chemicals (newer nontoxic embalming chemicals approved by the Green Burial Council are acceptable). Clients are asked to inform funeral directors and/or morticians to avoid embalming and to use alternatives such as refrigeration, dry ice, or closed casket services. If an individual is embalmed against their will or if some circumstance arises making embalming necessary, the Cemetery MAY still accept the remains, provided there is no use of heavy metals such as arsenic or long-lasting chemicals.

Burial Containers: All interments shall be made in biodegradable containers such as a wooden casket, urn, shroud, cardboard cremation box, or other biodegradable containers. Containers shall be constructed of sufficient strength to support the weight of the decedent. Caskets or alternative containers constructed from cardboard, corrugated fiberboard, pressed paper or similar materials may be used if such containers have been approved by the Preserve. Approval may be given after receipt of satisfactory proof that the container has been adequately tested and shown to be of sufficient strength to support the weight of an adult human body and is biodegradable. All caskets and shrouds should have sufficient external handles for pallbearers. If the casket does not have handles, please notify Foxfield Preserve staff and request a carrying aid.

Outer Interment Containers: Vaults and similar outer containers are inconsistent with natural burial and are not permitted unless some special circumstance arises. Foxfield has the sole right to make decisions regarding these special circumstances.

**Cremation Remains:** Cremation remains are accepted. Urns are optional and must be biodegradable. Scattering of ashes will be allowed in designated parts of the Preserve

#### Site Maintenance

**Mowing:** Foxfield Preserve is a nature preserve. Mowing of the site and pathways to individual graves is not consistent with a nature preserve and is prohibited.

Floral Tributes and Decorations: Decorations, floral tributes, flags, shepherd's hoods, and similar items are permitted only at the time of interment services. Funeral Directors are required to remove such items immediately following such services. If they are not removed, the Foxfield steward will remove them at the owner's expense.



### Condensed Rules & Regulations

#### Grave Markers

Marker Specifications: Modest grave markers are permitted. They must comply with the nature preserve concept and be approved by cemetery staff. Markers must be natural stone,. They may be engraved, but may not be polished. The stones must lay flat and have a natural appearance, including irregular edges. Stones must be at least 96 square inches (approximately 8"x 12") but may not exceed 216 square inches (approximately 18"x 12"). Stones may not extend above the soil surface more than 3 inches.

Living Memorials: Living memorials are native plants: trees, shrubs, grasses, or flowers. As Foxfield Preserve is a nature preserve, all living memorials must be approved native species. Permission is required for any plantings. This is to avoid establishing undesirable species on the preserve. Permission will only be granted for native species from a list provided by the Foxfield steward. Plants must come from approved sources or can be obtained directly through the Preserve. Foxfield will make the final determination as to the suitability of any plant for any interment site.

Trees: Trees are only permitted in the forest section. Clients who would like to plant trees should work with the Foxfield Preserve Steward. Trees must be approved species and of appropriate size. The Foxfield Steward can provide a species list. Trees will only be approved if Foxfield is certain that plants are native, wild varieties and are not plundered from the wild. Trees may be established either preneed or at need. Preneed plants should be adjacent to the interment site at a sufficient distance to prevent an undue disturbance at the time of interment.

A complete list of Foxfield Preserve Rules and Regulations is available upon request.



# Map of Area

