

Eco-friendly burial in the Warwickshire countryside





About Alne Wood Park

Alne Wood Park Natural Burial Ground is set in a peaceful wildflower meadow, with far-reaching views of the surrounding countryside. It offers a less formal, nature-friendly alternative to a traditional cemetery with plots for both full-burial and the interment of cremated remains.

The burial ground is surrounded by newly planted and ancient woodland. Colours changing with the seasons, it is a place grounded in nature, for family and friends to honour and remember their loved ones.

The site is located just north of Great Alne, near the Warwickshire/ Worcestershire border and just 20 miles from the centre of Birmingham. It forms part of the Heart of England Forest, a charity creating and conserving native broadleaf woodland in the Midlands. The connection to the Forest ensures the long-term future of Alne Wood Park, guaranteeing an eco-friendly place of rest, that will eventually become wooded parkland. Any profit is donated to the charity to support its important work.



Natural Burial

Natural burial, also known as Green burial and Woodland burial, started in the UK around 30 years ago. The appeal of this environmentally friendly option has grown significantly in recent years, particularly as awareness of the climate emergency has increased and people look for alternatives to traditional burial.

A natural burial involves the following:

- 100% biodegradable coffins, shrouds or urns.
- Ground level memorials, made from locally sourced wood or stone.
- Nature-friendly site maintenance to promote biodiversity.
- Not allowing bodies to be embalmed.
- Graveside tributes limited to cut flowers with no packaging.

Biodiversity

The biodiversity team at the Heart of England Forest worked with us to develop our site management plan. This is designed to create a thriving wildflower meadow, encouraging biodiversity while maintaining access to grave sites, through careful mowing and spoil removal.

At Alne Wood Park, we do not plant trees on individual graves as this can create a dense, unhealthy woodland, negatively affecting tree survival. However, memorial trees can be planted in designated areas within the burial ground. "The one who plants trees, knowing that he will never sit in their shade, has at least started to understand the meaning of life."

Rabindranath Tagore, poet, 1861 – 1941



Eco-Friendly

Choosing to have a burial at Alne Wood Park helps the environment in three ways:

- Natural burial is the most ecofriendly funeral choice.
- Active, onsite biodiversity creation and management
- All profits support the Heart of England Forest's work.

This creates a long-lasting environmental impact, a 'return to nature', providing a living memorial to future generations.

Holding a Funeral

A funeral at Alne Wood Park is a unique experience, surrounded by the sights and sounds of nature. No more than one burial is scheduled per day, so families have the opportunity to take their time and know they will not feel rushed to leave. The site is open for burials of locals and non-locals. regardless of belief or religion. Pricing and the forms to reserve a plot and to book a burial can be found on our website. Appointments can be made to view the site or choose a specific plot location - please call 01789 400203 or email info@alnewoodpark.co.uk to arrange this.

Giving in Memory

You may wish to offer friends and family the opportunity to support the Heart of England Forest in memory of your loved one – as well as, or in lieu of flowers. Whether you chose to plant a tree in their name, create an online tribute page, or hold a memorial collection on the day, the Charity can provide support.

Please call **01789 778541** or email **info@heartofenglandforest.org** and ask for more information on Giving in Memory. Or use the QR code to visit **heartofenglandforest.org/giving-memory** to read about the different options.

Leave a gift in your Will

Through your wishes, you can help to create and conserve tomorrow's great native woodland. If you would like information about leaving a legacy to the Forest, please call **01789 778541** or email **legacy@heartofenglandforest.org**







Plot Purchase

Different sized plots are available for either full or ashes burial. An ashes plot can be purchased individually or as a family plot with space for up to four interments. Purchasing a plot in advance provides peace of mind that arrangements are in place and a specific location chosen. This is particularly important if a plot is required adjacent to another burial site such a partner or family member. In addition, prepurchasing a plot secures the current price, ensures your family knows your wishes for natural burial, and relieves the burden of organisation and cost at the time of death. Plot locations are recorded in specialist software that links the electronic record with the location on a digital map. This is referenced onsite using ground-level survey markers, these ensure that plot locations can be accurately measured, now and into the future. Smart phones can be used in conjunction with our online map to help easily find a plot location onsite.

After a burial, all plots are marked with a named wood marker and seasonally sown with a mix of local grass and wildflowers to return them to a natural state. Larger wooden or stone plaques are available to purchase to create a more permanent memorial.



Alne Wood Park is located within the Heart of England Forest, a charity creating and conserving a huge native broadleaf woodland in the Midlands.



Contact us

Alne Wood Park offers a unique opportunity to hold a burial in a beautiful location, while also benefitting the environment. Here, family and friends are given space and time to honour and remember loved ones, both on the day of the funeral and with future visits. As the site is owned by the Heart of England Forest, a charity committed to conservation, it will remain a place of enduring natural beauty, protected and secured for generations to come.

To find out more about the benefits of choosing Alne Wood Park, or to arrange a visit please contact us on 01789 400203 alnewoodpark.co.uk | info@alnewoodpark.co.uk



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