

The Disposal of ashes (also called - cremated remains)

All crematoria in Leeds, (Lawnswood, Rawdon & Cottingley), provide Gardens of Remembrance or an area where you can scatter / strew ashes. Some also provide cremated remains plots, where containers can be placed for limited periods.

Funeral Directors are instructed to remove all ashes within one month of the cremation taking place unless a pre booked appointment is made for a strewing. Ashes will not be stored at the crematorium for any longer than one month.

Ashes can only be removed from the crematorium with the appropriate authorities from this council and only using a suitable container, such as a traditional wooden ashes casket. You can bury Ashes in a grave in a cemetery or churchyard, scatter them at another crematorium or scatter them privately however, you will need to make sure you have the necessary permissions from the appropriate Authority/Landowner before doing so. The Authority could be:

- the local authority for the area where you wish to scatter the ashes
- the church
- the local canal and river trust, or British Waterways, if you wish to scatter the ashes in a canal or river.

The location of any Ashes strewn within a cemetery or crematoria grounds that are under the management of Leeds City Council, will be recorded as such and each strewing will be accompanied by an officer of the council.

When ashes are scattered, exposure to the elements (sun, wind, rain and so on), quickly breaks them down, so that they are no longer visible within a few days.

For more information on the disposal of ashes please contact the Bereavement Technical team on 0113 378 8196 or parks@leeds.gov.uk