

Regulations for Scatter Garden
to disperse cremated remains of loved ones
at Abington Friends Meeting
(updated 8/2022)

Our Abington Friends Meeting Graveyard Committee recognizes that scattering cremated ashes of loved ones has become an increasingly popular and meaningful way to remember a loved one and provides each family a unique way to celebrate their loved one in a place that was special to them during their life. Although we believe as Quakers that every place is sacred, we know that our Abington Friends Meeting has been a special place for many families. We have designed a Scatter Garden in our graveyard where cremated remains may be dispersed according to the guidelines below. All whose ashes are scattered in our Scatter Garden will be held in the Light by our Meeting community.

- The Scatter Garden will be made available for the remains of Meeting members. If your loved one was an active attender or had another relationship with Abington Friends Meeting, the request will be reviewed by the John Barnes Trustees. To scatter ashes, please contact Loretta Fox at AbingtonMeeting@abingtonfriends.net to make a request and to schedule a time to scatter the ashes.
- Families will be limited to scattering remains of two loved ones per calendar year. If special circumstances arise, please discuss this with the John Barnes Trustees, through Loretta Fox.
- Ashes may be scattered only in the designated Scatter Garden.
- We will not permit any plaques, markers or other memorials in the Scatter Garden. We will maintain a list of those whose ashes have been scattered, but there will be no outward sign or symbol.
- At the time of cremation of a loved one, please alert your Funeral Director that you intend to scatter the ashes, because the remains may be prepared specially. It is the responsibility of the family to communicate with the Funeral Director and meet these requirements.

Cremation renders ashes harmless, so there is no public health risk involved in scattering ashes. It is best to have one person at a time control the release from the container while the others observe. A group may take turns doing a partial scattering one at a time, or they might release the ashes simultaneously from smaller containers each containing a portion of the ashes. It is important to understand what to expect when scattering ashes. Always try to cast the ashes downwind to keep the remains from blowing onto people gathered. Cremation ashes are not in any way a health risk, but some may find the contact disturbing or disrespectful. The ashes will consist of dense, sand-like matter that will likely fall to the ground quickly, but a portion may remain airborne in the form of a whitish-gray cloud upon dispersal.

Signature below indicates receipt of these regulations and agreement herewith.

Authorized Representative for Family

John Barnes Trustees, Inc.