

Akron Mennonite Church Cemetery and Natural Burial

In recent decades, many people have sought alternatives to traditional burial methods—both to reduce expenses and to lessen environmental impact.

Common alternatives include:

- **Cremation**, with cremains placed in an urn and buried, or scattered in a meaningful location.
- **Natural (green) burial**, where the body is buried without embalming, typically in a biodegradable shroud, casket, or grass basket, and without a burial vault.

The Nature Preserve

Akron Mennonite Church has developed a **four-acre Nature Preserve** adjacent to the cemetery. This area features walking paths, native trees, meadow grasses, and perennial plants. It provides a peaceful place for reflection, meditation, remembrance, and serves as a habitat for pollinators, birds, and other wildlife.

Eligibility

The cemetery is open to:

- Members and attendees of Akron Mennonite Church and other Mennonite congregations, and
- Individuals living within a **three-mile radius** of the church.

Burial Options

1. **Traditional Burial**
 - Includes embalming, casket, and vault.
 - Marked with a single, ground-level granite marker.
2. **Natural (Green) Burial**
 - No embalming or vault required; the body may be shrouded or placed in a biodegradable container.
 - One or two bodies may be interred in a single grave, with a shared granite marker listing both names and dates.
3. **Cremation Burial**
 - A half-lot can accommodate one or two urns.
 - Marked with either a single or shared granite marker.
4. **Scattering of Cremains**
 - May be done in a designated area within the Nature Preserve or offsite.
 - Names and dates are recorded on the granite Memory Patio.

Additional Considerations

When selecting a burial option, families are encouraged to consider:

- **Cost,**
- **Personal values,**
- **Family preferences,** and
- The range of **funeral services** desired.

The **Akron Mennonite Cemetery Association** is available to provide more information about options, fees, and guidelines, and to help you determine the best choice for your needs.

Contact Information

For more details or to purchase a burial lot, please contact:

Akron Mennonite Church Cemetery Association

 717-859-1488

 amc@akronmench.org or weberjj@ptd.net

Updated August 2026