



FAMILY DISPOSITION OF HUMAN REMAINS (FAMILY BURIAL)

Wisconsin law allows a member of a decedent's immediate family to personally prepare and conduct the final disposition of the decedent. You will need to know and understand all of your legal responsibilities, including filing all required documents, as described below and in accordance with Wisconsin Statutes. If you have additional questions about the legality of your intended plans for final disposition, you may want to seek legal counsel.

TYPE OF DISPOSITION	BASIC VITAL RECORDS FORMS	SUGGESTED CONTACTS
All types of disposition	Notice of Removal (if death occurs in a hospital, nursing home, or under hospice care at any location) Report for Final Disposition (this is the burial permit) Death Certificate Worksheet	County Register of Deeds, Coroner/Medical Examiner, or State Vital Records Office for forms and instructions Note: Blank forms are only available to a requestor upon the death of an immediate family member.
Cremation	Cremation Release	Coroner/Medical Examiner for signed permit Note: Most Coroners/Medical Examiners require you to provide a copy of a completed death certificate worksheet (with cause of death) prior to issuance of the permit.
Burial of body or cremated remains in a cemetery/mausoleum		Cemetery Sexton for authorization
Burial of body on private land Burial of cremated remains (if you plan on installing a permanent grave marker)		Wisconsin Burial Preservation at 608-264-6494 to report the burial Register of Deeds to find the appropriate office that has information on zoning restrictions and to find out how to record the gravesite on the land description/deed

To view or print Wisconsin laws on disposition of human remains, refer to: Chapter 69.18, Chapter 157, and Subchapter VIII of Chapter 440. Wisconsin Statutes are located at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/stats.html>.

The grid above identifies certain required vital records forms. The grid does not include other death-related legal forms and reporting requirements for all government agencies, financial institutions, or other entities.

For questions on completing the vital records forms, contact the State Vital Records Office at 608-266-1373 or DHSVitalRecords@wisconsin.gov.