

Dignity & Respect

Images of 'mass' burials or anecdotal stories of greyhounds being shot or killed in other unsavoury ways continue to surface. Probably the biggest outrage occurred in England with the publication of a story in the Sunday Times in July 2006 about a man in Seaham who claimed to have shot and buried 10,000 greyhounds at his property for trainers who no longer considered the dogs suitable for racing. The article included a photo of the man wheeling a wheel barrow containing the bodies of a number of greyhounds.



Over a number of years, practices like this have resulted in a formal review of our own welfare standards; the industry has set a standard for its participants to ensure that euthanasia by lethal injection administered by a veterinarian is the only method accepted by GRNZ.

You can find the full story here http://www.ourgreyhounds.co.uk/stop_cruelty_to_greyhounds.htm

Dealing with the disposal of your animal can be very unpleasant, but it is a necessary part of being an animal owner. Ultimately, the method you choose will depend on several factors including expense, public health, feasibility and emotional preferences. The plans you make now can prevent problems and regrets in the future.

Discuss euthanasia options in advance with your veterinarian.

Regardless of the method of disposal you choose, make certain you have all the facts and information first before proceeding.

*Check with your Environmental Health Officer, District Council, and your local Animal Control Officer may also provide you with useful information.

Remember, each district is different to the other, so make sure you familiarize yourself with the by-laws that relate to your property.*

Always be very aware of wells, surface water, public areas and property lines. Also consider if seasonal water will be an issue: often different times of the year will cause water tables to rise. If composting or burying, take steps to ensure wildlife or other animals on your property cannot access the carcass.

Consider your options well in advance, and make plans for different seasons: for example it may be impossible to bury a carcass during the winter due to frozen ground and high water tables.

Always consult with a veterinarian if your animal dies from an unknown cause.

Carcasses should be disposed of immediately, and treated with the dignity and respect they deserve.