



MAPLE RIDGE
— FUNERAL CHAPEL —

A Journey of Remembrance

The British Columbian's Guide to Ash Scattering

Navigating Logistics, Law, and Landscapes in the Pacific Northwest

From the misty shores of Vancouver Island to the sun-drenched orchards of the Okanagan, our province offers a final resting place of unmatched beauty.

Your Legal Rights & The Executor's Duty



Binding Wishes

Under the Cremation, Interment and Funeral Services Act, written instructions in a will or letter are legally binding in BC.



The Executor's Obligation

The executor has a statutory duty to follow these wishes, provided they are safe, reasonable, and practicable.



The Hierarchy of Permission

- Private Land: Requires landowner consent.
- Crown Land: Generally permitted on unoccupied land and waterways.

Selecting the Location: Respect and Regulations



Crown Land

Most of BC's wilderness is Crown land. Scattering is generally allowed on unoccupied land and water if done without permanent markers.



First Nations Territories

Acknowledge traditional territories. Avoid sacred sites, such as Spirit Island or specific peaks. Consult the "First Peoples' Map of BC".

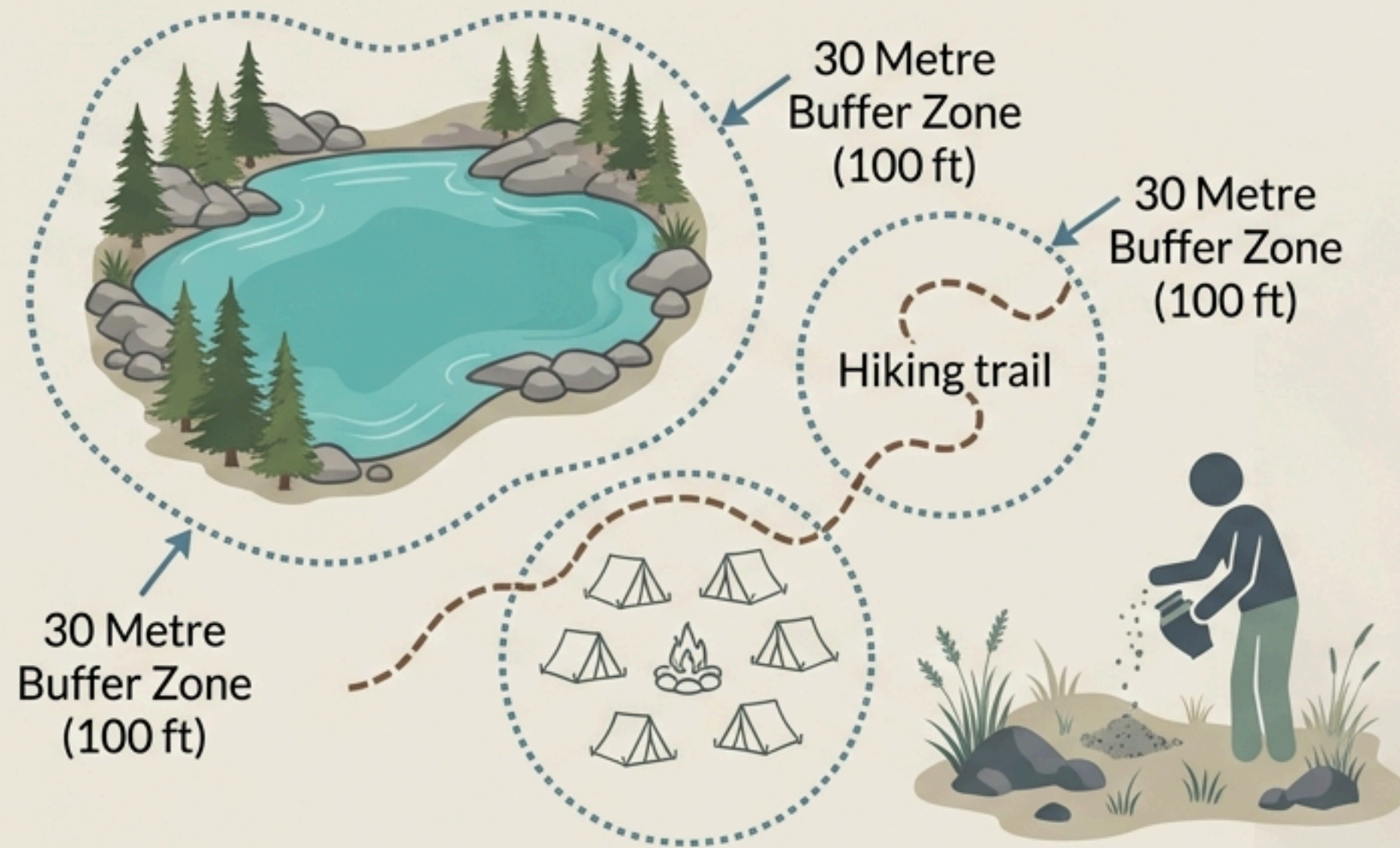


Provincial Parks

Parks like Garibaldi generally allow scattering. Always check the specific park website for sensitive ecological zones.

Memorializing in National Parks

Pacific Rim, Kootenay, Yoho



The 30-Metre Rule

Protect alpine ecology and water chemistry. Stay 30m away from:

- Water sources (Lakes/Rivers)
- Hiking trails and roads
- Campsites and picnic areas

Leave No Trace: No cairns, plaques, or photos left behind.

The Travel-Safe Container: Clearing Security

The Golden Rule: Security officers cannot open an urn. It must be **X-ray transparent**. If they cannot see through it, it does not fly.



Material	Status	Notes
Plastic / Polypropylene	✔ Travel-Safe	Highly Recommended
Cardboard / Cloth	✔ Travel-Safe	Good temporary solution
Wood (Thin-walled)	✔ Travel-Safe	Usually permitted
Metal (Brass/Bronze)	✘ Check Only	Opaque to X-ray
Stone (Granite/Marble)	✘ Check Only	Opaque to X-ray

Pro Tip: Recommendation: Use a temporary travel container for the flight and transfer to a decorative urn at your destination.



Air Travel Logistics: Know Your Airline

WestJet 

 Air Canada & Porter 



The 350ml Limit

WestJet restricts carry-on cremated remains to 350ml (approx. the size of a soda can). A full adult urn exceeds this and may need to be checked.



Carry-On Friendly

Generally allow urns as carry-on in addition to standard allowance, provided the container is scannable.

Required
Documentation



Death
Certificate

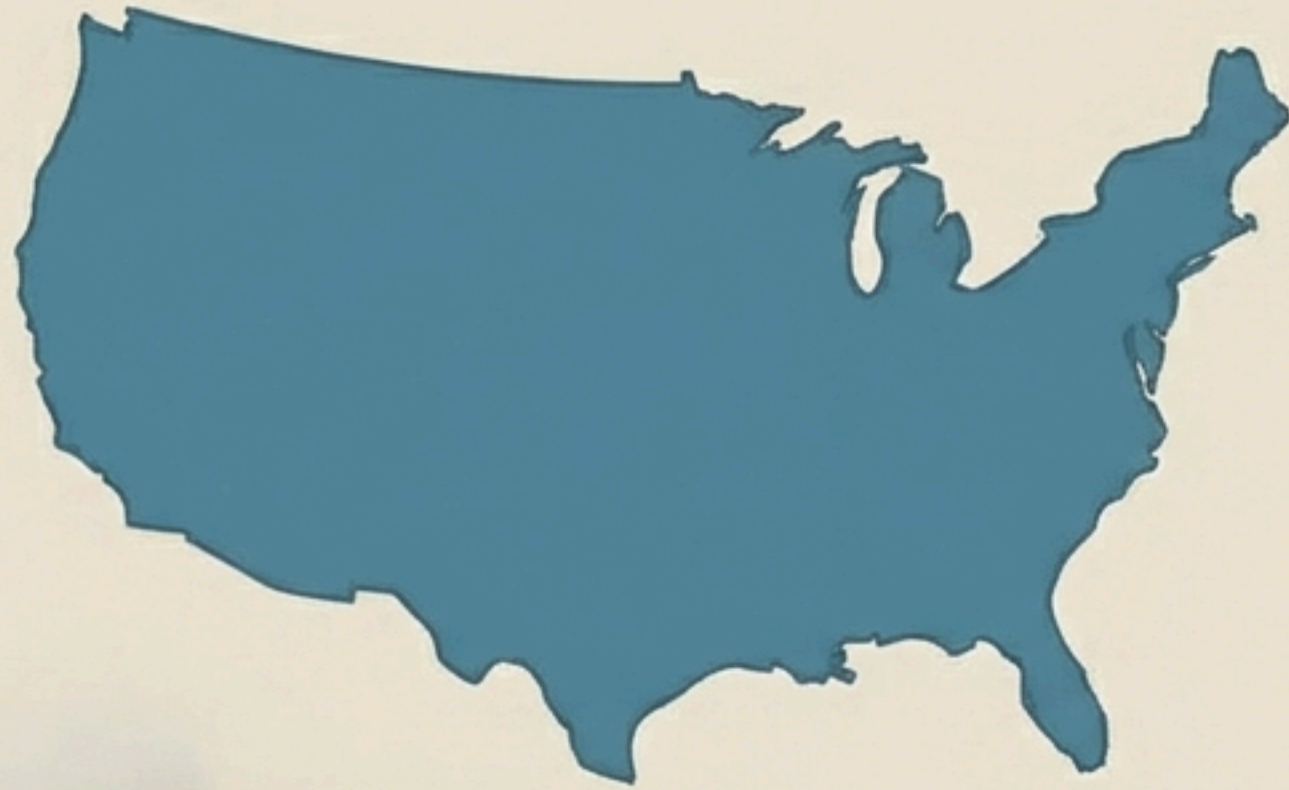


Cremation
Certificate



Funeral Home
Declaration Letter

Crossing Borders: USA and UK Regulations



Entering the USA

- **Container:** Must be wood or plastic (X-ray transparent).
- **Prohibited:** Lead-lined ceramics.
- **Customs:** Must declare to Customs and Border Protection (CBP).



Entering the UK

- **Permits:** None required, but must declare to customs.
- **Shipping Warning:** Royal Mail does NOT accept urns. You must carry it yourself or use cargo shipping.
- **Scattering:** Allowed on water (check Environment Agency rules).



The Geography of Memory: Local Favorites



The Sea-to-Sky

The Stawamus Chief: A challenging hike for a granite peak scattering.



The North Shore

The Lions: Often accessed via aerial scattering (helicopter).



The Interior

Okanagan Lake: A tranquil, sun-drenched setting.

Environmental Stewardship: The Ceremony



Wind Direction

Always stand upwind. Ensure ashes drift away from guests.



Biodegradable Only

Use local, organic flowers. No plastic ties, ribbons, or wires.



The Metal Disc

Remove the crematorium ID disc before scattering. Keep it as a memento.



Water Safety

Respect the distance rule to protect alpine water chemistry.



Ensuring a Legacy: Gardens and GPS

Scattering Gardens



- Dedicated spaces (e.g., Boundary Bay, Kelowna Memorial).
- Benefits: Permanent record, memorial plaques, professional maintenance.

Digital Immortality



- GPS Tagging: Apps like Ecorial record exact coordinates of wild scatterings.
- Geotagged Urns: Create a virtual pin to revisit the exact spot for generations.



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