



Why Preplan?

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Thinking about one's own funeral leaves most people feeling a little uneasy, but more adults are finding that planning their own service offers great emotional and even financial security for them and their families. With preplanning, families find comfort in knowing that the funeral reflects what their loved one wanted. It also gives them peace of mind to not have to make important decisions at a stressful time.



When considering prearranging, you should **contact funeral homes in your community**. A funeral director can walk you through the prearrangement process. NFDA recommends prearranging for everyone and developed the **Consumer Preneed Bill of Rights** as a resource for understanding what to expect from a preneed contract.

Once you've made your prearrangements, keep a copy of your plan and any pertinent paperwork in a safe place. Also, inform a close friend or relative what arrangements you've made and where the information may be found.

If you choose, there are several **ways to prepay** for your funeral that can offer you financial benefits. However, prepaying is not required, but an option that many individuals find helpful.

If you feel prepaying is wise for you, then be sure to go over all available options with your funeral director. Remember, like with any contract, ask any and all questions you may have regarding your preneed plan before you sign an agreement.

NFDA Model Consumer Protection Guidelines for State Preneed Funeral Statutes

The Model Consumer Protection Guidelines for State Preneed Funeral Statutes were first approved by the NFDA Policy Board in October, 2000. They were designed to ensure that consumers who purchase preneed funeral goods and services make informed decisions, deal with ethical and licensed preneed sellers and agents, and retain the right to cancel preneed funeral contracts or transfer preneed funding to different funeral providers. The Preneed Guidelines were recently amended to include 100 percent trusting, following action by the NFDA Policy Board at its October 18, 2003, meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada. Click on the link below to view the Preneed Guidelines.

- [NFDA Model Consumer Protection Guidelines for State Preneed Funeral Statutes - PDF 90KB](#)

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