



Memorial Program Policy

The Town of Munster Parks and Recreation department has multiple memorial programs to celebrate and commemorate the life of individuals, pets and/or organizations. There are ways to memorialize your loved ones or to commemorate a special date or occasion by purchasing a bench, bone, brick, or tree. On some occasions we have partnered with the Munster Civic Foundation to offer such a program.

Bench Memorial

Memorial Benches add beauty to a park as well as provide a useful amenity for patrons to enjoy as they relax and appreciate their surroundings. The purchase of a 6-foot bench with black powder coated steel frame and recycled plastic slats with plaque and installation is included. The 2" x 10" plaque can include up to four lines of text with a maximum of 48 characters per line. Please note that staff cannot guarantee placement at your preferred or alternate location but will work with donor to find a suggested location in the park system.

The warranty on a memorial bench will be based on its replacement life cycle of 15 years. The plaque is also warranted for a period of 15 years.

Dog Memorials

Dog Bone plaques, made from plastic resin, are 8" in size and available for purchase. These memorials are installed on the fence near the entrance to the Rotary Dog Park at Centennial Park. If interested in purchasing a dog bone to memorialize your pet, contact Munster Parks and Recreation office at Town Hall. Memorial dog bones will be warranted for a period of five years from initial date of purchase.

Brick Memorials

Memorial Bricks are available for personalized messages at Centennial Park. Donors have their choice of a 4" x 8" bricks or an 8" x 8" brick. Bricks can be placed in one of two areas at Centennial Park: "Together" Sculpture area or in the Half Round Public Plaza north of the Entertainment Stage. Bricks are warranted for a period of three years from the date of purchase.

Trees Memorials

Memorial Trees leave a lasting legacy, which will grow stronger and blossom year after year. They serve as a living tribute and celebration of life for all to enjoy for generations to come. Trees are planted twice a year, in the spring and fall. Trees at Centennial Park were planted during initial development and are available for memorializing at separate pricing than other parks.

A Memorial Tree purchase includes the cost of the tree, a 6" x 6" personalized plaque and installation. Tree types vary based on updates for what is best for the park system to encourage long-term survival and can be discussed with the Supt. of Park Operations. The plaque can include up to four lines of text with a maximum of 24 characters per line. Please note that staff cannot guarantee placement at your

preferred or alternate requested location due to utility placement, ground conditions or overcrowdedness of trees but will do their best to find a suitable location.

Munster Parks and Recreation holds ultimate ownership over all memorial trees in the Town park system, and it is prohibited for anyone to decorate, personalize, or add adornment to any tree. Such items will be removed and discarded if found.

Centennial Park Memorial Trees

Existing trees in Centennial Park are available for memorializing with the same type of plaque as the other parks detailed above. Tree plaques are 6" x 6" and can be placed at the base of existing trees which were planted as part of the initial development of Centennial Park.

Warranty

The warranty on all memorial trees is five years from the date of purchase. The Town of Munster will replace the tree for five years from the date of purchase if the tree does not survive.

The plaque is warranted for three years from date of purchase. The Town is not responsible for vandalism done to your memorial. If a memorial is vandalized after the warranty period, the donor will have the option to purchase a replacement.

It is the intent of the memorial program to add amenities to the Town park system with the expectation they will be assets for years. However, the Town reserves the right to remove or relocate a memorial if it interferes with safety, maintenance, expected lifespan or park redevelopment.

Please note that the Town reserves the right to refuse wording on any order that promotes one political viewpoint over another. The Town also has the right to refuse wording on any order that violates this or any other policy of the Town or any applicable law, including but not limited to:

- Endorsement or opposition to political campaigns or ballot measures
- Content that promotes, fosters or perpetuates discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status or disability
- Pornographic/sexual content
- Content that infringes upon any copyrights, trademarks or legal ownership
- Content that violates any Town of Munster policies or any local, state or federal laws
- Content that encourages illegal activity
- Vulgar or profane language, personal attacks, or offensive comments that target or disparage any ethnic, racial, sexual orientation or religious group
- Threats to any person or organization

Final placement of benches, bones, bricks and trees will be left to the discretion of park staff.

Further details on plaque sizes, item dimensions and specifications are available by contacting the Town of Munster Parks and Recreation office at (219) 836-7275.