Natural Organic Reduction in Vermont

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Introduction

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There are two widely available death care options in Vermont

Cremation

Burial

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Cremation is fossil fuel-driven

535 lbs CO2/process

16,200 trips across the length of VT each year

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Traditional burial is very resource-intensive

800,000 gallons of embalming fluid

1,600,000 tons of reinforced concrete

104,000 tons of steel

30,000,000 board feet of hardwood

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Consumer demand for more environmentally-friendly options is widespread and increasing

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Natural Organic Reduction offers another option

Natural, environmentally friendly alternative to cremation

Instead of being cremated and turned into ash, a body is **turned into nutrient-rich soil over a 30-day process**

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It’s a multistep process that allows our bodies to be safely returned to nature

Body is gently washed and wrapped in a biodegradable shroud

Body is placed in its own individual vessel on a layer of organic mulch, wood chips, and wildflowers

Over a 30-day process, the body is broken down on a molecular level by water and beneficial microbes*

Inorganic materials are removed (like hip/knee joints)

Soil is tested for maturity, stability, and contaminants

Each process produces an ~1 cubic yard of nutrient rich soil that can be kept or donated to restoration projects

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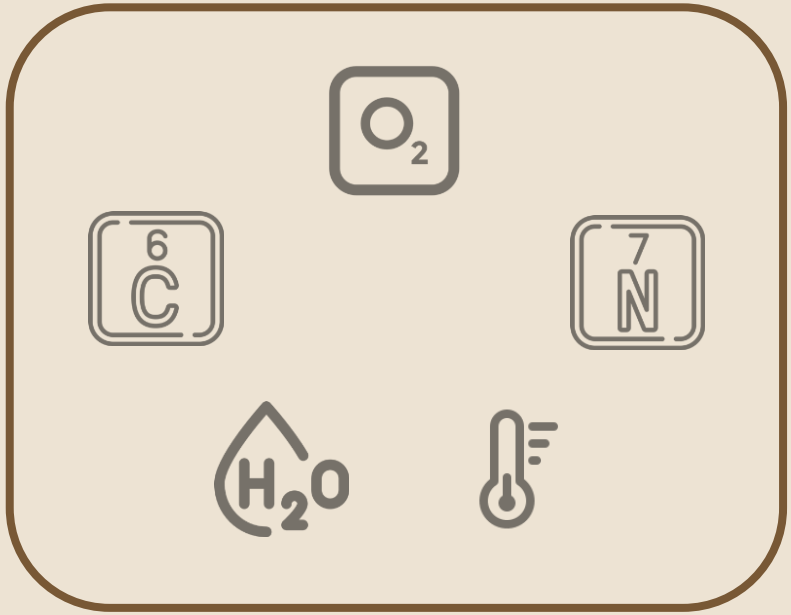
Soil transformation is an accelerated, natural process



Our **proprietary vessel technology creates and optimizes the conditions** for highly efficient composting

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We can leave the Earth with beauty

- **Net zero CO2 emissions**
- **Provides nutrient-rich compost to improve soil health**

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Other states have laid a solid foundation to expanding consumer choice

Expanded Choice

- Washington
- Oregon
- Colorado

Under Consideration

- Vermont
- Massachusetts
- Delaware

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APPENDIX

Green alternatives in Vermont are limited and won't work for everyone

Alkaline Hydrolysis

- Very **limited facilities** in VT
- Requires **more resources** (energy to reach very high temps + 400 gallons of water)
- Uses **chemical additives**
- Produces a liquid byproduct that is **often flushed**
- Historically **lower consumer appeal**

Green Burial

- **Limited availability** (4 in VT)
- **Not always practical** in freezing temperatures
- Land used in **perpetuity**
- **Cannot scatter** in personally meaningful places
- **Sustains** conserved areas (**vs. regenerates** damaged ones)

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There are a few important eligibility exclusions for worker and soil safety

Those who meet the following conditions or causes of death are ineligible for NOR:

- Prion disease
- Mycobacterium tuberculosis
- Ebola
- Radioactive seed implant
- Nuclear pacemaker
- Perished by radiologic incident

Environmental monitoring in WA is far stricter than EPA requirements for biosolids

Testing Parameter	Threshold
Fecal coliform	< 1,000 Most probable number per gram of total solids (dry weight)
Or	
Salmonella	< 3 Most probable number per 4 grams of total solids (dry weight)
Arsenic	≤ 20 ppm
Cadmium	≤ 10 ppm
Lead	≤ 150 ppm
Mercury	≤ 8 ppm
Selenium	≤ 18 ppm

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