

I am Dying to talk to you about a solution for Climate Change!

Green Burial concept is a resurrection of old practices, when the body of the deceased was placed into the ground to decompose naturally.

As people are starting to consider the impact of cremation and traditional funerals on the environment, a few groups have brought back more natural and energy-savvy ways.

Methods vary between using a designated area in a Hybrid Cemetery, a Natural Burial Ground, in a specifically designated wildlife or forested area, or even a Conservation Burial Ground which refers to land that is being restored back to nature.

A faster way to dissolve the remains is the process of 'Aquacremation/Aquamation/orAlkaline Hydrolysis". It uses water and a small amount of potassium hydroxide in a stainless steel cylinder which is heated for a few hours. This process generates a quantity of very fine white ashes that are returned to the family, and uses 80-90% less energy than cremation. It is also less expensive, destroys all DNA and bacteria, and leaves the metal intact (fillings, implants), without giving rise to toxic fumes.

There are a few other emerging methods of naturally integrating one's remains into the environment, but Aquamation and Green Burials are starting to be legislated by US and Canada and are practiced in about half of the States and Provinces.

Barriers to wider use are lack of knowledge, religious beliefs and discomfort in talking about death. Maybe a topic of conversation to have with the loved ones for anyone preparing an end-of-life plan.