

Natural Organic Reduction: a natural choice for the end of life

Attachment A

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WHAT IT IS

Natural organic reduction (NOR) provides consumers with additional choice for final disposition. It is an alternative to cremation or burial.

NOR is a **safe and proven method of death care that gently transforms bodies into soil**. Much like the choices that people have with cremated remains, families may choose to use some soil to **plant a tree or a memorial garden**.

NOR **offers consumers an additional choice that is natural and sustainable**. With significant savings in carbon emissions and land usage, it addresses increasing demand for green alternatives.

Given the rapid population growth in Colorado, sustainable options have become increasingly important.

KEY QUESTIONS ANSWERED

What is natural organic reduction?

- A natural method of disposition that converts human remains to soil
- Based on the principles of livestock mortality composting
- Proven viable through university led programs
- Process takes approximately 30 days


What is the public safety impact?

- Proven safe by university led programs
- Exceeds DOH requirements: 131F heat kills viruses, bacteria, and pathogens
- Exceeds EPA requirements: heavy metals are stabilized in the soil, not volatilized
- Safe for gardens, trees, and general land use

How does this benefit consumers?

- Freedom of choice
- Green alternative
- Natural and dignified process

NEED

150% more seniors in CO  The number of **senior citizens** in Colorado will **rise 150%** from 2010 to 2030.

Right now, residents have **only three choices for the disposition of their body** after death: cremation, burial, and alkaline hydrolysis.

73% cremation rate



Colorado has a **cremation rate of 73.6% and rising**. But **cremation requires fossil fuels and emits CO2 into the atmosphere**, polluting and contributing to climate change.

IMPACT

1/8 energy use



Natural organic reduction uses 1/8 the energy of cremation, and saves over a **metric ton of CO2 per person**.

If every deceased Coloradan chooses natural organic reduction, we will **save almost 1/2 million metric tons of CO2** in just 10 years.

49k homes



That's the equivalent of the energy required to **power 49,000 homes for a year**.

10M trees



Or the equivalent of letting **10 million seedlings grow into trees** for 10 years.

SIGNIFICANT INTEREST + MEDIA COVERAGE



The New York Times



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