

Natural Burial: Caring for the Environment in Death as in Life—and Leaving a Legacy of Land Preservation



DUST TO DUST

Natural burial means wrapping the body in a simple biodegradable shroud, or placing it in an

unadorned pine box, for interment in a beautiful natural space, a glade or meadow. Some people like to mark the spot by planting a native tree, but a GPS locator, or even a flat stone is also a possibility. No embalming is involved, no polluting chemicals, no marble memorials, granite gravestones or fancy expensive coffins.

We believe a burial that enhances the environment is a better way to celebrate a life that has passed, without placing a financial burden on families.

As our urban centres gobble up green space in sprawl and congestion, natural burial makes more and more sense. Natural burial grounds will provide green oases of native trees, flowers, and wildlife for the living who seek a serene spot to relax and breathe deep, or to remember their loved one. If you are planning now for the future,



consider the natural alternative of a final resting place that enhances our natural heritage.

THE NATURAL BURIAL ASSOCIATION

Our vision is to provide an environmentally-friendly alternative to conventional burials. Even cremation causes the release of chemicals into the air, and the intense heat requires the use of carbon-based fuels that emit greenhouse gases.

We work to spread the natural burial concept in Canada, following the example of the United Kingdom, where bodies are simply returned to the earth

in more than 200 burial grounds. There is a growing interest, too, in the United States, with natural burial grounds in California, New York and Florida, among other states.

In Canada, the concept is beginning to take hold, mostly at existing cemeteries where special areas are being set aside for those who choose the simplest most natural way. Proponents are also seeking approvals to set up new natural burial grounds, which of course, would follow all the provincial government's regulations under public health and cemetery legislation.

The NBA works with the funeral industry and other death-care providers to encourage the growth of natural burial cemeteries, and setting aside more spaces at existing cemeteries.

But we also have a vision of acquiring and conserving more land, thus anchoring and pro-

tecting natural heritage grounds with the cemetery designation. For this purpose, we have begun fundraising, and in particular, are asking those who choose natural burial to consider donating to our Natural Land Acquisition Bank, through a cash donation, or a bequest in your will.

If you are interested in knowing more about our land bank idea, give us your name and email address and we will send more details.

NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

PHONE

Or email info@naturalburialassoc.ca



To join the Natural Burial Association and help us spread our message please fill out our membership form or see our website:

www.naturalburialassoc.ca

Please send your donations to:

The Natural Burial Association
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