

GREEN BURIALS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

Eco-friendly, natural end-of-life options

Presented by: Emma Crews
Licensed NH Funeral Director License #: 1129

Agenda

1. Overview of the different types of non-traditional funerals/ green burials
2. Green burial cemetery options in NH, VT, MA, & ME
3. Cost of green burials
4. Advantages to preplanning a funeral

What Is A Non-Traditional Funeral?

Cremation



Body
Donations



Green
Burials



Home
Funerals



**And the
rest...**

Body Farms

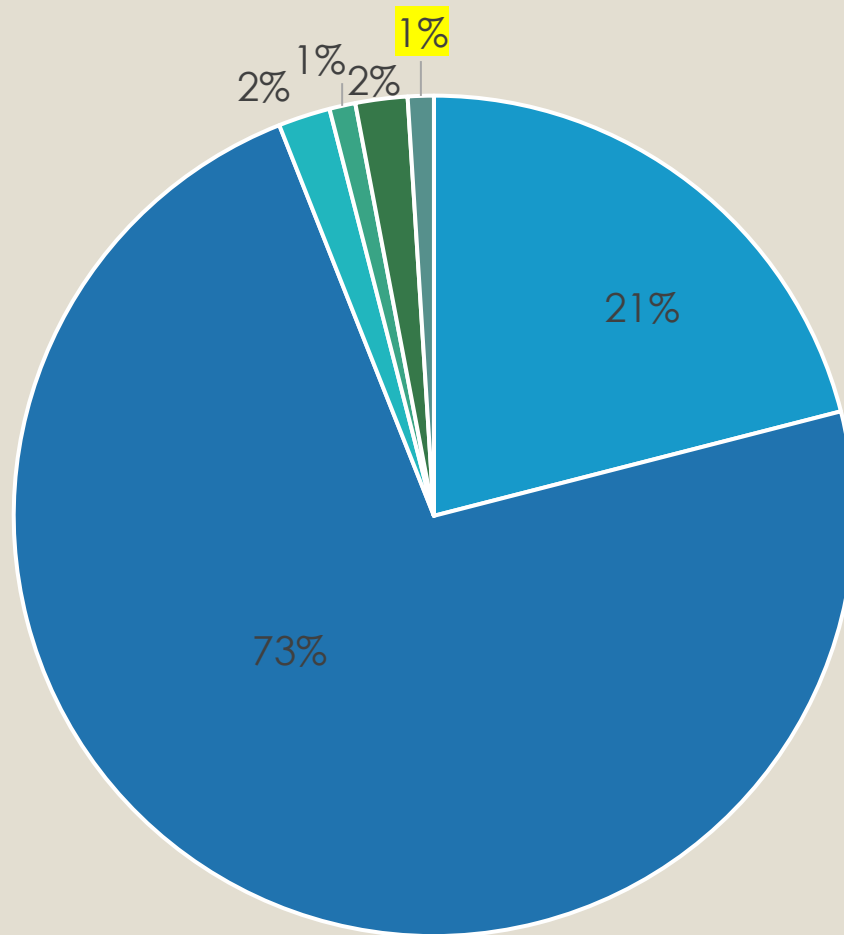
Alkaline Hydrolysis

Living Funerals

Virtual Funerals

Destination Funerals

Who Is Selecting Non- Traditional Options In NH?



- | | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Traditional Burial | Cremation |
| Body Donation | Green Burial |
| Home Funeral | The Rest |

What is a Green Burial?

- A burial method that avoids embalming chemicals, metal caskets, and concrete vaults
- Uses biodegradable materials for the body and casket
- Aims to allow natural decomposition and minimal environmental impact



Conventional Burial

- Embalming
- Casket
- Vault
- Hire services

VS

Natural Burial

- No toxic chemicals
- No vault
- Biodegradable container
- Family participation



Natural Burial

- 3.5'- 4' depth
- 18-24" minimum smell barrier
- Organic maintenance
- Family participation/ritual
- Returning to the Earth
- Conservation of land

Home Burial



- Burial on land owned by a family member- for family members ONLY
- Record burial with the Municipal Cemetery Trustees & on deed for property
- Public right of way for visiting gravesite
- 100' from any dwelling, school, store, business
- 50' from known water source & state highway
- Comply with local zoning- contact town











Alternate Containers



Shrouds



Caskets

Planning a Green Burial

- Contact your local cemetery to ask about green options
- Ensure cemetery bylaws permit vault-free burials
- Work with a funeral home familiar with natural burial practices
- Consider pre-planning to ensure your wishes are followed

Death Certificates

State based
document obtained
by funeral home or
family from town clerk
offices in NH

CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

State of New Hampshire
Certificate of Death

File #000000

Full Name of Deceased
Date of Death
Time of death
Date of Birth
Birthplace
Mother's/ Parent's Name
Father's/ Paren'ts Name
Place of Death
Domestic Status
Spouse's/ Partner's name prior to first marriage/ civil union
Residence
Place of Disposition
Date of Dispositon
Manner of Death
Cause of Death
a. ----
b. ----
c. ----
d. ----

File Date
Approx Interval onset to death

Other Significant Conditions

Describe How Injury Occured
Date/Time of Injury
Place of Injury
Location of Injury
Name and Address of Certifier
Doctor's information
Marginal Notes

1 HEREBY CERTIFY THIS IS A TRUE COPY ISSUED FROM THE OFFICIAL RECORDS ON FILE AT THIS OFFICE AND SHALL BE RECEIVED AS EVIDENCE WITH THE SAME EFFECT AS THE ORIGINAL.

ATTEST: STATE/LOCAL REGISTRAR

DATE ISSUED: STATE/CITY/TOWN OF:

VS-SPI

ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE

Green Burial Cemeteries in NH

- Laurel Hill Cemetery (Abbot Hill Rd, Wilton, NH):

Phone: [\(603\) 654-9451](tel:6036549451)



- Life Forest (200 Beard Rd, Hillsborough, NH)
 - Life Forest buries cremated and composted human remains only.

Phone: [\(603\) 315-0790](tel:6033150790)



- West Lebanon Cemetery (Pleasant St. Lebanon, NH - Section F):

Phone: [\(603\) 448-3112](tel:6034483112)

- Old Pine Tree Cemetery (Old Pine tree Cemetery Rd, Lebanon, NH):

Phone: [\(603\) 448-3112](tel:6034483112)



Green Burial Cemeteries in VT

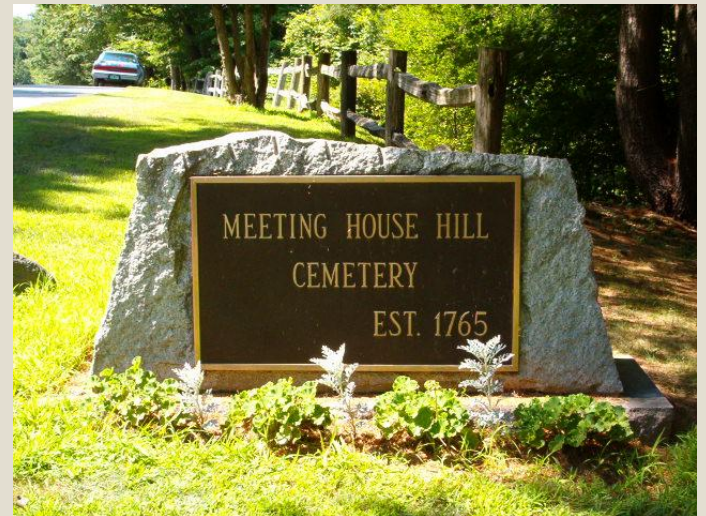
- Green Mount Cemetery (250 State St. Montpelier, VT)

Phone: [\(802\) 223-5352](tel:8022235352)



- Natural Burial Ground at Meeting House Hill Cemetery (580 Orchard St. Brattleboro, VT)

Phone: [\(802\) 689-6380](tel:8026896380)



Green Burial Cemeteries in MA

- Mount Auburn Cemetery
(580 Mt Auburn St., Cambridge, MA)
Phone: [\(617\) 547-7105](tel:6175477105)



- Greenlawn Cemetery
(57 Orne St., Salem, MA)
Phone: [\(978\) 745-0195](tel:9787450195)



Green Burial Cemeteries in ME

- Baldwin Hill Conservation Cemetery (Fayette Corner Rd, Fayette)

Phone: [\(207\) 377-2848](tel:(207)377-2848)

- Cedar Brook Burial Ground (175 Boothby Rd, Limington)

Phone: [\(207\) 637-2085](tel:(207)637-2085)

- Burr cemetery (56 Durham Rd, Freedom)

Phone: [\(207\) 865-3940](tel:(207)865-3940)

- Rainbows End Natural Cemetery (Mill Creek Rd, Orrington)

Phone: [\(207\) 631-0185](tel:(207)631-0185)

- Life Forest (589 Trapp Rd, Auburn, ME)

Phone: [\(603\) 315-0790](tel:(603)315-0790)

Cost of Green Burials

- Price can range from \$3,000 + depending on items selected for the funeral
- Green burial plots range in price
 - contact town clerk offices for pricing

Type	Cost (\$ - \$\$\$\$)	DIY	Practicality (1-5)
Traditional Funeral	\$\$ - \$\$\$\$	No	1
Cremation	\$ - \$\$\$	No	1
Home Funeral	\$ - \$\$\$	Yes / No	2
Green Burial	\$\$ - \$\$\$	Yes / No	2 - 3
Body Donation	\$	No	1 - 2
Body Farm	\$\$\$	No	3
Alkaline Hydrolysis	\$\$\$	No	4 - 5
Virtual Funeral	\$	Yes	1 - 5
Living Funeral	\$ - \$\$\$\$	Yes	1
Destination Funeral	\$\$\$ - \$\$\$\$	Yes / No	4

Let us now look at an example funeral statement from a green burial ...



Phaneuf
Funeral Homes & Crematorium
Honoring Loss ~ Celebrating Life

Statement Date

April 11, 2025

Death Date

STATEMENT OF FUNERAL GOODS & SERVICES SELECTED FOR DECEASED'S NAME

Professional Services

Basic Services of Funeral Director and Staff	\$1,675.00
Other Preparation of the Body	\$350.00
Funeral Director and Staff for Cemetery Committal	\$475.00
Use of Refrigeration	\$250.00
Transfer of Deceased Into Our Care	\$575.00
Use of Hearse	\$525.00

Section Total **\$3,850.00**

Merchandise

Willow Branch Biodegradable Casket	\$1,995.00
Obituary Placement Fee (On-line and/or Printed)	\$95.00

Section Total **\$2,090.00**

Cash Advances (Not Guaranteed)

Section Total **\$0.00**

Miscellaneous and Non-Refundable Items

Section Total **\$0.00**

Total Charges

\$5,940.00

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Total Charges \$5,940.00

Payments Received

\$0.00

Balance Due

\$5,940.00

Payment Policy

Payment is due in full upon receipt unless prior financial arrangements have been made.

Cash advances = price not controlled by funeral home
Ex. Cemetery Costs, church rental fees, clergy honorariums, etc.

\$5,940 ESTIMATE

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRE-PLANNING



Phaneuf
Funeral Homes & Crematorium
Honoring Loss ~ Celebrating Life

BROCHURE AND PRICE LIST

PRE-PLANNING IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT WHEN NON-TRADITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING CONSIDERED

YOUR WISHES MAY NOT BE FULFILLED BY YOUR
SURVIVORS

OR

YOUR PREFERENCES MAY
NOT BE KNOWN BY YOUR SURVIVORS

THERE ARE SEVERAL ADVANTAGES TO PRE-PLANNING

- ENSURES YOUR FINAL WISHES WILL BE FULFILLED
- ALLOWS FOR PROPER MEMORIALIZATION
- ELIMINATES FINANCIAL BURDEN
- PROVIDES PEACE-OF-MIND

Resources & Contacts

- New Hampshire Funeral Resources: nhfuneral.org
- Green Burial Council: greenburialcouncil.org
- Life Forest: thelifeforest.com
- Local Cemetery Trustees, Town Clerk/ Town Hall



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Phaneuf Funeral Homes & Crematorium

243 Hanover St ~ Manchester, NH 03104

172 King St ~ Boscawen, NH 03303

101 Union St ~ Littleton, NH 03561

861 Lafayette Rd ~ Hampton, NH 03842

57 High St. ~ Brattleboro, VT 05301

26 Kinsley St. ~ Nashua, NH 03060

Littleton Location: (603) 444-3311

Manchester Location: (603) 625-5777