



Sample Website Language for Funeral Homes Offering Home Funeral and Green Burial Assistance

Home and Blended Funerals

We strongly recommend thoroughly researching your options and learning about the process long before the actual time of need. We are here to answer any questions you may have, and to assist you in any capacity you choose.

What are home funerals?

Home funerals occur when families keep or bring their deceased loved one home for any period of time following their death. Family members often bathe and dress the body, keep it cool, and may invite friends and neighbors to the home for visitation. If desired, clergy, musicians, and others may come to the home for an intimate private service. The next-of-kin or a designated agent is responsible for filing all paperwork, and the family may transport the body to the cemetery or crematory.

What are blended funerals?

While families have the privilege of caring entirely for their own after death, timing and your family's circumstances may make it more feasible to hire a professional to assist with filing the paperwork or taking care of transportation from hospital or facility to home, or from home to the cemetery or crematory. Blended funerals are ones where families take up the tasks they find most meaningful, while partnering with a funeral director to help with other details or services.

Where can I learn more?

We at YOUR NAME **Funeral Home** are dedicated to being a resource to you in the event that you choose a home or blended funeral. Call us any time at NUMBER. We will always encourage each and every family to participate in a funeral in whatever manner or level they are comfortable with. We are more than willing to share with you the experience we have gained through the years of assisting families at their time of need, in order to make a home funeral all that you want it to be. Whether it be with guidance, assistance with Vermont's electronic filing of death certificates, or just simple suggestions of how to do something a little easier, we will be here to help you. *[This is where you might consider posting a listing of services — and prices — specific to home funeral families. And include it in its own GPL]*

To further help you prepare, here are some organizations that provide practical, comprehensive information about home and blended funerals:

New Hampshire Funeral Resources, Education & Advocacy

Offering body care workshops, public presentations, professional in-services, phone consultations, and extensive website resources on home funerals here in Vermont. <http://www.nhfuneral.org>

National Home Funeral Alliance

A home funeral resource for anyone seeking to learn what is happening in the US and Canada, this site includes practical guides for families, and directories for finding teachers, speakers, home funeral guides, celebrants, home-funeral-friendly funeral directors, and much more. <http://www.homefuneralalliance.org>

Funeral Consumers Alliance

<http://funerals.org>

Green or Natural Burials

What is Natural Burial?

Natural burials occur when the body is interred in the ground without impediments to decomposition. This means there is no formaldehyde-based embalming, no metal or exotic wood coffins, no concrete or plastic vaults. Bodies are buried in shrouds or simple coffins in direct contact with the earth.

In order to make the burial as environmentally green as possible, shrouds are made of organic materials, such as linen, muslin or cotton, while coffins are built of biodegradable materials such as soft woods, sea grass, and wicker, sometimes made by local artists and craftspeople, in order to keep the transport footprint as low as possible. We carry [*describe your green products here*]

What green cemeteries are available in New Hampshire?

The Green Burial Council sets the standards for green cemeteries, and has defined three levels that it certifies. Hybrid cemeteries are those located in existing cemeteries. Natural cemeteries require that no embalming or vaults are used, and coffins and shrouds are made of organic materials. Conservation cemeteries follow these requirements while supporting easements and conservation lands with the revenue from burials.

For the most up-to-date listing of green cemeteries in the US and Canada, and to see what's happening to open green cemetery space in New Hampshire, go to NHFREA <http://www.nhfuneral.org>. For GBC-certified cemeteries only and more information about green burial, go to <http://www.GreenBurialCouncil.org>

What other ways can I make a funeral green?

Here at the YOUR NAME Funeral Home, we are continuously striving to improve our ability to assist families with any request, and helping find ways to go green is no exception. We are the leaders in Vermont in providing you with environmentally sound options to choose from.

Here are some more tips for making a greener exit:

- Choose from our GBC-approved caskets and urns
- Ask for formaldehyde-free embalming
- Consider using wildflowers in season rather than imported
- Research markers made of native materials in your area

FYI Vermont funeral and cemetery statutes

Wondering where to find the laws that inform cemeteries and funerals in VT? It's good to know your rights and responsibilities before a funeral of any kind occurs. If you have any questions, give us a call and we'll be happy to explain what we know.

Vermont Funeral Laws & Statutes

[Digging Deep](#): A Guide to Cemetery and Burial Law in Vermont

The Vermont Statutes Online [Title 18, Chapter 107](#)

A Guide to Burials and Funerals in Vermont [VT Dept of Health](#)

Vermont Funeral Price Surveys [FCA of Vermont](#)