

Did You Know...

Newcastle Funeral Home is the only funeral home in Southern Ontario that performs Bio Cremation

Bio-Cremation has been around for over 20 years, used by medical facilities and universities as the chosen mode of disposition for bodies that have been donated to science

Pacemakers and other implants are not damaged and either recycled or returned to the manufacturer



Benefits of Bio-Cremation

Much more gentle and respectful process than flame based cremation

More affordable than burial or flame based cremation

No need to purchase a casket

Your loved one never leaves our care

Ashes are returned to the family for burial or scattering, just like flame-based cremation

Pacemakers do not need to be surgically removed

Medical implants are unaffected and can be recycled

No emissions of mercury or other harmful greenhouse gases

Uses over 90% less energy than flame based cremation

Newcastle Funeral Home

386 Mill St S
Newcastle, ON L1B 1C6

1-877-987-3964 (24 Hours)

Understanding Bio-Cremation



For more info visit
www.biocremations.ca


NEWCASTLE
FUNERAL HOME LTD

What is Bio-Cremation?

BioCremation, also known technically as Alkaline Hydrolysis, is an accelerated form of the process which takes place when a body is buried in the ground. A combination of gentle water flow, temperature, and alkalinity are used to accelerate the natural course of breakdown accomplished by our ecosystem. At the end of the process the body has been returned to its natural form, dissolved in the water. Similar to flame based cremation, the only solid remains are the mineral ash of the bones, which are returned to the family in an urn.

The Same End Result

Whether you choose burial, flame cremation or Bio Cremation, the end result is the same—each body is eventually reduced to its basic elements of bone ash. The primary difference between burial, flame cremation or Bio Cremation is the amount of time the process takes as well as the “catalyst” that supports the transition. With burial, soil and micro-organisms are the catalysts that reduce the body to bones. With flame-based cremation, the catalysts to reduce the body to bones are flame created by fuel (CH_4 natural gas or C_3H_8 propane gas) mixed with oxygen. With Bio Cremation, the catalysts to reduce the body to bones are water (95%) and potassium hydroxide (KOH).

Common Misconceptions

Although there are many misconceptions about the Bio Cremation process, the following are the two most common myths about this process:

#1 Acid is used in the Bio Cremation Process: This is completely false. There is absolutely no acid used during this gentle, water-based process. With Bio Cremation, the only chemical mixed with the water is an alkaline called potassium hydroxide (KOH), which is a colorless solid, inorganic compound. KOH was the precursor to numerous health and beauty cosmetics and pharmaceuticals, and this substance is also used in blanching olives, soft soaps, cleaning supplies and other items you would commonly find in your home. In the Bio Cremation process, the reaction of KOH in water is exothermic, meaning it gives off significant heat which contributes to the hydrolyzing or breakdown of the human tissue in the sealed cremation chamber.

#2 The Bio Cremation Process Boils the Body: This is also absolutely false. Bio Cremation creates a highly controlled and sophisticated environment that uniquely combines water, alkali, heat and pressure. This process biochemically hydrolyzes the human body, leaving only bone fragments. During a typical Bio Cremation cycle, the body is reduced, bone fragments are rinsed and the remaining by-product is a sterile fluid.

Eco-Friendly

The sterile by-product (effluent) from Bio Cremation which is made up of small peptides, sugars, amino acids, and soaps is sent to water recycling through municipal water treatment where it is filtered, purified and recycled back to earth either through the aquifer, lakes, streams and non potable water use. In essence, the body is recycled without harm to the environment. With Bio Cremation, we return to the earth through a cycle of life, helping to promote new life as nature intended it to occur.