

## **GREEN BURIAL & CREMATION RESOURCES**

### **EDUCATION**

[A Thousand Hands](#) Celebrant, Home Vigil Guide, and Death Educator. Anne Murphy is trained in the art of supporting individuals and families through the season of death and dying through heart-centered, compassionate and meaningful conversations, rituals and ceremonies.

[Green Burial Council](#) (GBC) is an independent, tax-exempt, nonprofit organization working to encourage environmentally sustainable deathcare and the use of burial as a means of protecting natural areas.

[Funeral Consumers Alliance](#) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting a consumer's right to choose a meaningful, dignified, affordable funeral. We do for funeral purchases what Consumer Reports does for products. [Funerals.org](#)

[Funeral Consumers Alliance MN](#) Learn about after-death choices, and how to plan after-death arrangements, that meet your needs, your values, and your budget.

[Order of the Good Death](#) The Order is about making death a part of your life. Staring down your death fears—whether it be your own death, the death of those you love, the pain of dying, the afterlife (or lack thereof), grief, corpses, bodily decomposition, or all of the above.

[Honoring Choices Minnesota](#) This program is a collaborative, state-wide advanced care planning initiative that provides resources for community, and familial conversations regarding end-of-life planning and care.

[Minnesota Health Department](#) This manual addresses the necessary duties, possible choices and legal requirements that must be met when a death occurs.

### **CASKETS SHROUDS & URNS**

[Northwoods Caskets- Wisconsin Company](#) builds quality handcrafted caskets and deliver to every funeral home in Wisconsin with next day (and sometimes same day) white glove delivery service. Ships caskets nationwide through 3rd party carriers with 3-7 day delivery service. DIY casket plans available online [northwoodscasket.com](#)

[Morning Dove Studios](#) sells wholesale biodegradable, ecologically-sound funeral merchandise suitable for natural burials or cremation.

### **OTHER**

[Recompose Life](#) Recompose offers an alternative choice to cremation and conventional burial methods. Our service - recomposition - gently converts human remains into the soil, so that we can nourish new life after we die.

[Full-Body and Organ Donation Options](#) Donation of tissue and organs saves the lives of thousands of men, women, and children each year. According to LifeSource™, a single donor

can help save and heal the lives of up to 60 people. Yet more than 109,000 people currently are on waiting lists for organ transplant.

To learn more about donating tissue or organs for transplant, contact LifeSource™ <http://www.life-source.org/> or American Donor Services at <http://www.americandonorservices.org/>.

A person may also donate his/her body for education and research. Whole body donation to this cause will aid in anatomy education, research, clinical practice, surgical training, and biomedical device design.

In Minnesota, there are two in-state options to which you may donate your body:

- 1) The University of Minnesota Anatomy Bequest Program: <http://www.bequest.umn.edu/>
- 2) The Rochester Mayo Clinic: <http://www.mayoclinic.org/body-donation/index.html>

In rare cases, a donation may be declined. Contact a program of choice in advance to register and make alternative plans with family in the event a donation does not qualify.

**[Grave Matters By Mark Harris](#)** Journey through the modern funeral industry to a natural way of burial. Mark follows families who found in "green" burial a more natural, more economic, and ultimately more meaningful alternative to the tired and toxic send-off on offer at the local funeral parlor.

**[Undertaken With Love: A Home Funeral Guide for Families and Community Care Groups by Holly Stevens and Donna Belk](#)** This book was created to help families and community care groups learn ways to continue caring for their loved ones all the way to the cemetery or crematory. It will teach you how to research state laws and identify your legal rights and responsibilities, how to handle, bathe and transport the body, and how to create and sustain an effective community care group.

*Compiled by Anne Murphy @ athousandhands.com 2019*