



Natural Organic Reduction (NOR)

- Legal definition of NOR: “the contained, accelerated conversion of human remains to soil”
- NOR is technically human composting: the managed natural decomposition of human bodies
- The process happens inside of specially-designed vessels along with plant materials. This bill proposes this process only to be in the realm of Licensed Funeral Directors
- Many Utahns are interested in this as their method of final rest
- The resultant soil amendment is safe for use on plants, trees, and gardens



Natural Organic Reduction (NOR)

- NOR is not burial. The process happens inside of a vessel.
- The resultant material is safe and nutrient rich for use on plants, trees and gardens.
- Similar to ashes from cremation, NOR soil does not need to be buried or scattered in a cemetery.
- The bones are reduced during the process similar to cremation, and incorporated into soil.



Example Recompose Seattle

- In operation since: Dec 2020
- Full-service licensed funeral home
- Licensed NOR provider
- 12,000 square feet
- SODO (industrial) neighborhood



From top: a Threshold Vessel is used for ceremonies; reception area with warm, nature-inspired, and unlike most funeral homes; the vessel array is where human composting takes place; a collection of oils and beauty care products for family-led death care rituals in Cedar.





Benefits

- Less energy use compared to cremation. Less land use compared to burial.
- Heat is created by microbial activity.
- Saves over a metric ton of carbon compared to cremation and burial.
- Resultant soil is beneficial for use on plants, trees, and gardens:
- Potential for funeral homes to add as an offering.



Use of Soil at Recompose

- 50% of Recompose clients bring it home for use on their own land.
- 50% donate it to Recompose's land program.
- Recompose land partners are nonprofit orgs focused on restoration and conservation.
- Records are kept similar to scattering ashes from cremation - no marker is necessary.
- Funeral homes/providers can also offer memorialization services if they choose.