



# 5 Must-know Funeral Planning Facts for Colorado

from The Natural Funeral

**1. Embalming is not required by law.** Refrigeration or body cooling is an alternative, required within 24 hours of death. Note: Embalming is a highly invasive procedure involving the replacement of bodily fluids with carcinogenic chemicals.

**2. Natural deathcare options exist (even if you choose cremation or conventional burial).** Avoiding embalming, choosing biodegradable caskets or shrouds, natural care of the body, are some of the choices which allow for a more natural ending. Green burial (the most environmentally friendly choice) is also available in Colorado.

**3. Families have the right to participate in their loved-one's care at death.**

The Natural Funeral believes in a co-creative approach to funeral care and informing families of their choices.

We have witnessed that when families take part in meaningful ritual, there can be healing from loss. This may include Reverent Body Preparation, a service we can also provide for you, on your family's behalf, to honor your dead.

**4. You can choose a Designated Agent** to enact your funeral wishes at death.

Download Colorado's "Declaration of Disposition" form to name a designated agent. This person may or may not be a family member. Your funeral plan and the designated agent form belong with your advance directives.

**5. Immediate next of kin must approve your cremation.**

Cremation is different from burial because there are no "intact" physical remains after the process. The Declaration of Disposition (aka Designated Agent Form) allows you to authorize your own cremation before death. Otherwise, all immediate next-of-kin will need to sign authorization forms after death.

The Natural Funeral offers **FREE Funeral Planning consults.** **Make an Appointment.**  
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