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## Cemetery Revolutions – How Natural Burial in Australia Can Realign Perception



Eco-friendly alternatives to traditional burial are becoming increasingly popular today. Previously, we've discussed the [environmental and health impacts of traditional burial](#) which tends to involve embalming and the use of caskets. As we've outlined, cremation is resource-intensive and high in pollutants. For many, the question of whether this is sustainable practice moving forward, as climate change gathers momentum, is moving many towards considering green burial options. Opting for green embalming or to be buried in a simple shroud is just one piece of the puzzle. Green burial, as a concept, may just change the way we think of cemeteries altogether, driving a move to reinvent the use of burial space.

Cemetery design has remained stagnant for a long time, especially in Australia and "the West". Some may see the current design of cemeteries to be the only way of burying, the only mechanism of remembering the dead. This may apply both to burial and storing the remains of ashes, but perhaps it isn't the design of cemeteries that has remained stagnant – our perspectives and collective mindset has remained languid. It may be that it's because we view the dead as placid, unmoving, and motionless, that we've allowed our perspective towards the issue to mirror what we believe their state to be.

## Stepping Stones in Redesign – Alternatives to Memorialisation