

**CITY OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS**

MEMORANDUM

To: Public Works Committee
From: Pat Brown, City Clerk
Subject: Glendale Cemetery – Bios Urn Consideration
Date: November 2, 2017

I have had an inquiry as to whether we would allow a Bios Urn to be placed in our cemetery. Attached you will find information about the Bios Urn and what it represents as an alternative to a traditional cremation burial as well as our current cemetery policies. Although it is an interesting alternative, it also poses its own set of challenges for traditional cemeteries.

I look for direction from the Committee on whether this is something we would consider allowing in our cemetery.



Bios Urn is a company driven by **Gerard** and **Roger Moliné**, two brothers that believes design, in conjunction with nature, has the ability to change the world. Supported by more than 15 years of natural projects, Bios offers a smart, sustainable and eco-friendly solution to approach an inevitable phase of human life.

Bios aims to change the way people see death, converting the "end of life" into a transformative process and promoting a return to life through nature.

Behind the company lies a two-man studio that seek to explore and improve humans habits through a constant dialogue with nature. Roger and Gerard Moliné have demonstrated this particular point of view in *Naturalment - Thinking Nature*. *Naturalment* is an art exhibition that explores natural materials, shapes and processes to understand the inner logic and workings of nature. The same logic that can then be applied to products and humans habits. Read more about *naturalment*.



What's in the box?

The Bios Urn.

- Bios Urn

- Soil Expansion Disc.
- Vermiculite growth medium

- Instructions for Use

- Seed of Your Choice

(contained in a sealed envelope)

An individual Bios Urn is sized at 16x16x32cm. The weight of each individual urn is 850gr.

BEHIND A BRAND IS A GREAT PRODUCT

The top capsule is designed to allow a proper germination and growth of the seed



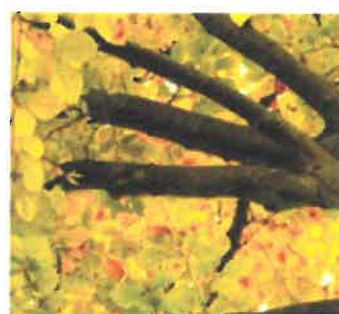
The seed roots only contact the ashes once the sprout is strong enough



Maple



Pine



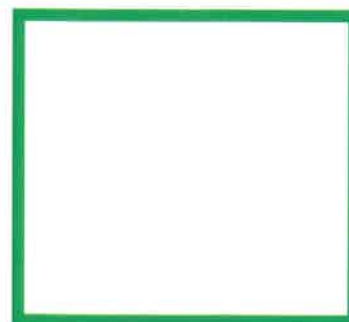
Beech



Ash



Ginkgo



Without seed

- A list of seeds we carry can be found on our online store: <https://urnabios.com/shop/>

- An individual Bios Urn is sized at 16x16x32cm. The weight of each individual urn is 850gr.

Q: What is the purpose of Bios Urn?

The intent of Bios Urn is to offer individuals an alternative for remembering deceased persons in a natural, sustainable fashion, thereby turning the process of death into regeneration and a return to life through nature. Our company objective is none other than to offer a economic, ecological and sustainable product that falls in line with our own philosophy.

Q: Why use Bios Urn?

It is innovative. It demonstrates the possibilities for invention have by no means been exhausted. Creativity can provide real solutions to current problems.

It is useful. Thanks to its creative process, Bios Urn becomes something necessary to achieve proper growth from ashes.

It is aesthetic. It is a simple, kind object, designed for our well-being. It is understandable. Its shape describes its function.

It is self-explanatory.

It is discrete. Bios Urn leaves no trace of identification that it has been used. It completely biodegrades into the subsoil.

It is honest. It is a product with a very specific role that does not intend to be more innovative or valuable than it truly is.

It is long-lasting and independent. Thanks to

its manufacturing process, Urna Bios does not "expire", and as such, its use is not bound by any specific period, epoch or place.

Its design is democratic. Its price is reasonable and allows for total compatibility in logistics processes and commercial distribution.

It is sustainable. Both the product and its function imply an environmental, social and economic improvement for a growing problem, overpopulation and metropolis growth.

It is simple. Less, can be better.

Q: How to plant a Bios Urn?

The Bios Urn is really simple to use. The urn is divided into two separate capsules: the upper capsule is a sealed unit to ensure the good condition of the seed until it begins to sprout; and the lower capsule is where you will store the ashes. You just need to fill the lower cone of the urn with the remains. Then close it with the top capsule and place the seed inside the capsule.

Before you bury the urn, you will need to mix the components with some soil from where you want your tree to grow. The components will naturally facilitate germination of the seed when mixed with soil.

Simply plant your urn where you want your tree to grow and take care of it. Always plant all of the urn, which is 100% biodegradable and won't damage the soil. You can plant your Bios Urn using a seed or a young sprout. The Bios Urn should be planted about 3-5 cm from the soil surface. Once planted, make sure the seed has the appropriate water and humidity levels.

The
Bios Urn
turns death
into a
transformation
and a return
to life,
through
nature.



Bios



What care does Bios Urn require?

Bios Urn requires much the same care as a normal tree: water, sunlight and good temperature. As such, in order to ensure proper growth, a site with proper soil humidity, an appropriate temperature and few hours of sunlight must be selected. If the process requires too much care on the part of the user, a good option is to use a sprout or seedling in place of a seed during the planting process.

Does the Bios Urn have expiration date?

Bios Urn does not have an expiration date. Thanks to the materials used to create the Bios Urn, you can keep the urn indefinitely. To favour its preservation, we recommend keeping the product in a dry place away from extreme heat. If you don't plan on using your urn anytime soon, we recommend getting a Bios Urn without seed. You can add your preferred seed at the moment of planting.

Can I use a Bios Urn with old ash?

Bios Urn can be used with ash saved from another urn. As such, if you already have the ash in your house, you may purchase the urn and transfer the ashes into it. You can also bring the Bios Urn to a crematorium or funeral home so they can handle

the task of transferring the ash for you.

What is the capacity of the Bios Urn?

The Bios Urn has been designed to hold all the ashes that result from the process of cremation. The capacity of the urn is 5.8lbs, or 2.5 Liters. Nonetheless, it can be used with a smaller amount just in case a symbolic portion is being saved.

Can I use only a small amount of ash?

Yes, the Bios Urn works with any amount of ash. You can use all of the ash, or just a small portion. Everything will eventually biodegrade and become part of the subsoil.

What is the price of the Bios Urn?

The Bios Urn is **\$145 USD**, or the equivalent in your respective currency.



*The
Bios Urn
special growth
medium*

Does the Bios Urn consist of any materials that should not be buried in the soil?

No, the Bios Urn is 100% biodegradable, and made with no chemicals, preservatives, or additives.

Is it legal to bury the Urn anywhere?

Please check with local authorities, but typically the urn can be planted wherever it is legal to plant a tree, including your backyard. We generally recommend natural environments, like gardens, backyards, or forests.

Are there burial sites/ cemeteries offering this option?

You would need to investigate this for yourself. The urn does not necessarily need to be in a burial site or cemetery. Many have made arrangements with divisions of parks and forests to have trees planted along trails or in parks where trees are protected. This really depends on your municipal, state or provincial government.

Are traditional cemeteries willing to bury this type of urn?

More traditional cemeteries are offering it as an option, however you need inquire within.

Do you have a version available for pets?

Yes. Currently, the Bios Urn is manufactured for both people and for pets. It is essentially the same product and universal, in the sense that it has the same shape, colour and price. The only difference is packaging and labelling, to aid in identifying the product.

Does the Bios Urn work with any type of seed?

The Bios Urn works with any type of seed. It has full seed compatibility. You can choose to use a seed, seedling, sprout, or young tree. We always recommend checking in with a local nursery or orchard to inquire about native tree species in your location. It's best to choose a native tree species so you are respectful to your environment, and to ensure growth.

What if I don't find the tree seed I want on your website?

If you don't find your preferred seed/tree in www.urnabios.com/shop simply get a Bios Urn without seed at www.urnabios.com/shop/seed. With that

urn you will be able to add your own seed at the moment of planting.

Can I use a seedling instead of a seed?

Yes, you can elect to use a seedling, or sprout instead of a seed.

Can I plant a flower, a plant, or a bush instead of a tree?

Absolutely, the choice is yours.

Can I use a pot to grow the seed?

Yes, you can plant the urn in a pot with enough capacity to bury the urn and then transplant it to its final location. Therefore, we have created the Bios Incube, the first system that lets you plant your Bios Urn close to you, and combines the insights of tree growth with data from its environment. Depending on the type of tree, the Bios Incube will water it accordingly. You can get more information on our website:

<https://urnabios.com/incube/>

Do you ship worldwide?

Our company sends the Bios Urn worldwide. Simply choose your urn and proceed to checkout.

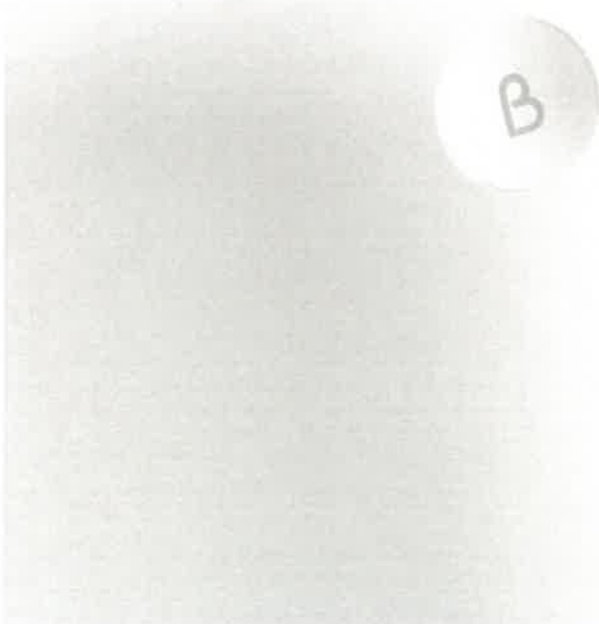
Before you pay you will see the shipping costs according to the chosen location.

How long does shipping take?

Shipping generally takes between 5-7 business days. Some shipments may take longer to your destination if there are delays in customs which are out of our control. We offer standard shipping (expedited service is not available at this time.)

What is the size of the urn?

The box size is 16x16x32 cm. and weight 0,85 Kg.



What's in the box?

The Bios
Incube.

- Bios Incube

The Incubator that facilitates growth, and enables you to track and monitor your Bios Urn when and where you want to.

- Bios Urn

A biodegradable urn designed to allow the growth of a tree when planted using the cremated remains of a loved one.

\$83,000

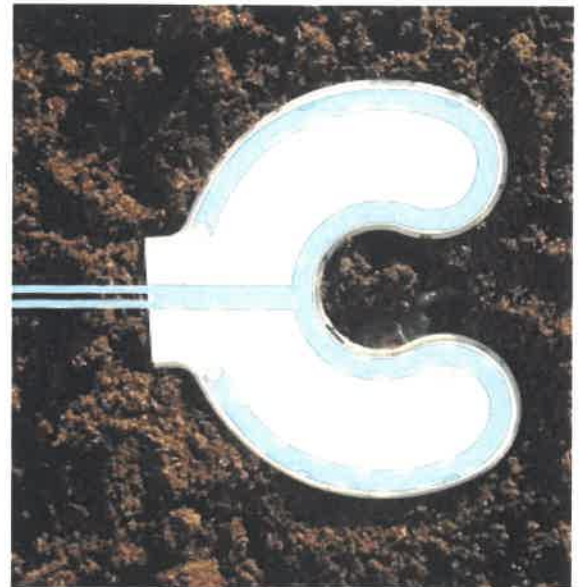
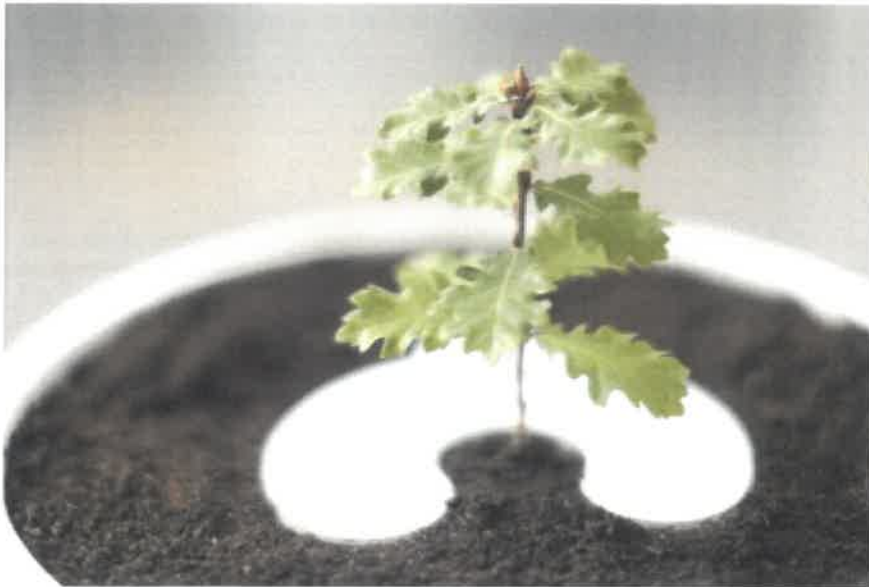
**More than 200
Bios Incube
sold.**

Each step of the campaign process has been so fun for us to work on. Now, we will begin working diligently on producing The Bios Incube and bringing it to all of you wonderful people. The first thing we will be doing is introducing some hardware and software improvements and updates. We will be updating you very soon on our next steps, and how everything is coming along.

Stay tuned!



*Successfully funded on Kickstarter
with more than \$83.000*



DESCRIPTION

The world's first incubator designed for the afterlife.

Bios Incube is the first system that lets you plant your Bios Urn close to you, and combines the insights of tree growth with data from its environment. Depending on the type of tree, the Bios Incube will water it accordingly.

20°

TEMPERATURE

60%

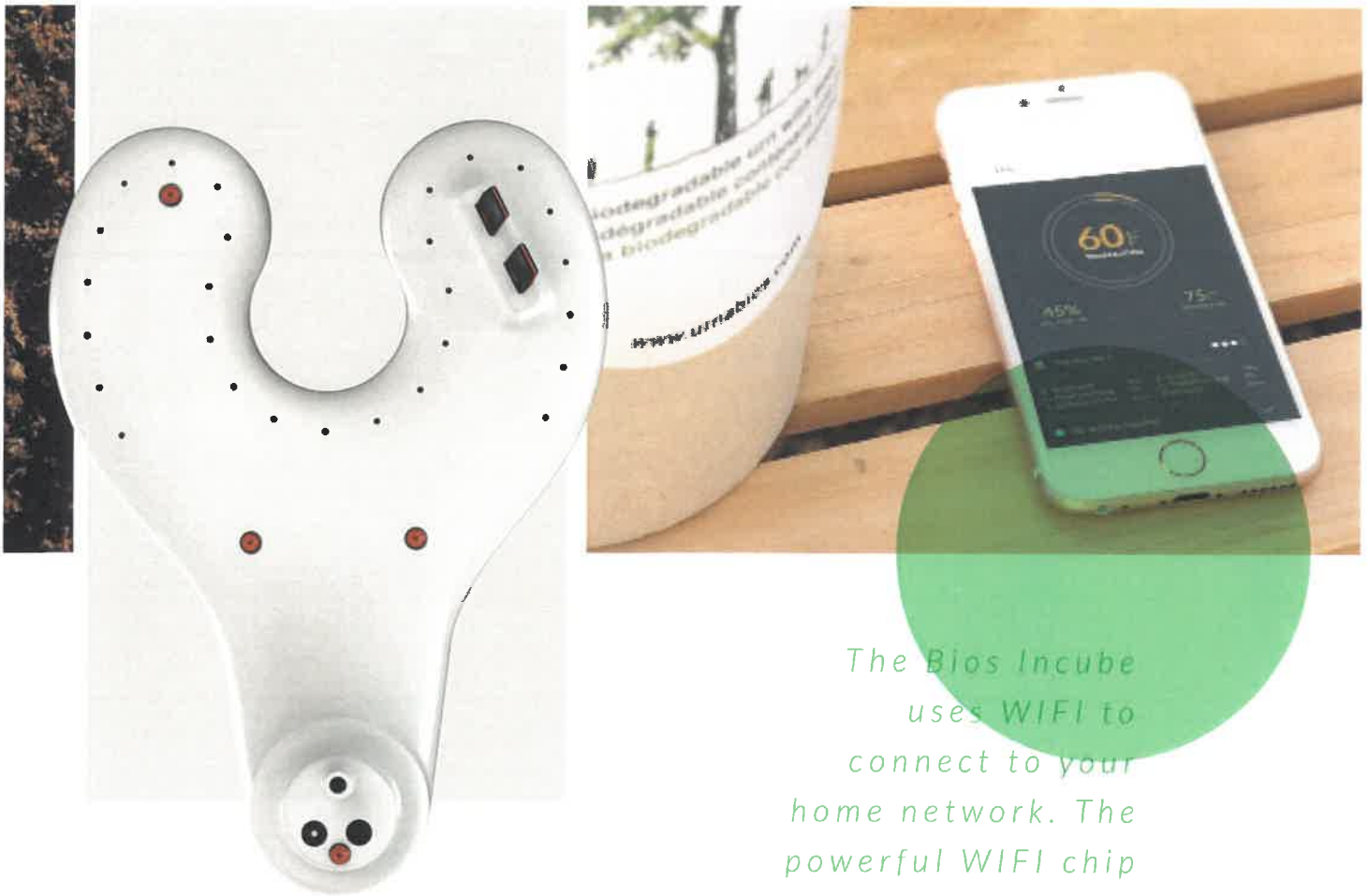
MOISTURE

90%

CONDUCTIVITY

40%

SUNLIGHT



The Bios Incube
uses WIFI to
connect to your
home network. The
powerful WIFI chip
in the Bios Incube
provides you with
the ability to track
and maintain the
growth of your seed
or tree, even if
you're not home to
be with it.

BIOS URN

CONTACT US

Email: hello@urnabios.com
wholesale@urnabios.com

Web: www.urnabios.com

**GLENDAL CEMETERY
CITY OF WASHINGTON
301 WALNUT STREET
WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS 61571**

**CONTACT PERSON
PAT BROWN, CITY CLERK
PH: 309-444-1137
FAX: 309-444-9779
e-mail: pbrown@ci.washington.il.us**

(Price changes went into effect on September 1, 2013 – Columbarium added November, 2016)

GRAVE PRICES

Upright Monument Sections:	\$700.00 per grave
Memorial Garden Section:	\$600.00 per grave (flat stones only, requires less maintenance)
Infant Graves:	\$100.00 per grave
Columbarium (double depth niche):	\$900.00 (inurnment fee included) (engraving fee not included)
Columbarium (single depth niche):	\$600.00 (inurnment fee included) (engraving fee not included)
Columbarium (Ossuary):	\$250.00 (inurnment fee included)

INTERMENT FEES

Traditional Interment – Mon. – Fri. - \$600.00
Traditional Interment – Sat. & Sun. - \$700.00

Cremation Interment – Mon. – Fri. - \$300.00
Cremation Interment – Sat. & Sun. - \$350.00

Infant Interment – Mon. – Fri. - \$250.00
Infant Interment – Sat. & Sun. - \$300.00

Columbarium Inurnment – Sat. & Sun. Only - \$100.00

Up to three burials are permitted on one gravesite. This can include one traditional and two cremations as well as three cremation burials. Additional burials on one gravesite will be charged a \$100.00 multi-use fee in lieu of purchasing a separate grave. This fee will be charged at the time of need.

A down payment is required of one half the total cost for grave sites that are purchased prior to the time of need. The remaining balance may be paid within 90-days from the date of purchase without interest. Following the interest free 90-day period, an additional 90-day period is available in which to make payments that would be subject to 18% interest per annum back to the date of purchase. Failure to make the required payments or to pay in full within 180 days will result in forfeiture of the unpaid grave sites.

Effective May 19, 2003, City personnel will **perform** all excavations for burials taking place at Glendale Cemetery. A concrete vault must be used for full burial. Such a vault is not required for burial in the infant section or for cremations.

The planting of all trees, bushes, shrubs and other woody plants of any type is prohibited in Glendale Cemetery, except by authorized city personnel. This woody plant restriction applies to both the public areas of the cemetery and private burial plots. The city has a long-term landscaping and tree planting plan for the cemetery grounds and accepts cash donations to help defray planting and landscaping costs.

UPRIGHT MONUMENT SECTIONS

The planting of non-woody plants on private burial plots is permissible with the consent of the person or family holding the interment rights. Planting is restricted to the 2 ft. x 4 ft. headstone area. Please contact cemetery personnel in advance of any planting on burial plots.

The above planting policies are intended to avoid infringement on other public and private properties in the cemetery.

Decorative items such as artificial plants, statuary, shepherd hooks, fencing, etc. must be confined to the designated 2 ft. x 4 ft. headstone area. Foot markers must not exceed 12" in height and must be confined to the designated 2 ft. x 4 ft. stone area. Structures other than monuments are not allowed on the grave site, i.e. benches, etc. City personnel reserve the right to remove any live greenery decoration that has subsequently turned brown, as well as any artificial decoration that is detached or in disrepair.

MEMORIAL GARDEN SECTIONS

The Memorial Garden sections have restrictions as follows:

- Only flat headstone markers are allowed;
- no plantings are allowed; and
- shepherd hooks and flower vases are allowed and are restricted to the headstone area of the grave, no other decorative items are allowed. If the headstone marker does not have a vase as part of the marker we will allow ground vases to be placed in the ground immediately adjacent to the marker only.

COLUMBARIUM

No decorations can be placed on the niche or columbarium.

While we recognize that taste is an individual matter, we reserve the right to remove from graves sites any items which have deteriorated; which are contrary to cemetery regulations, or do not contribute to the beauty and dignity of the cemetery. We will not be held responsible for such items that may be removed.

The City of Washington cannot be held responsible for items lost, stolen, or damaged through acts of vandalism. Any maintenance needs related to monuments should be referred to a monument company.