



CHAPTER 90
ARTICLE 13F - CREMATIONS AND ALKALINE HYDROLYSIS

N.C.G.S. § 90-210.130.

Final disposition of reduced human remains.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	No amendment history on record	21 September 2026, 04:21 UTC	4fd28792b83a6aed0e097da4 - a3ec7f970a62bf4417d0cf82 - 4b6cae46dc0499cd

§ 90-210.130(a) The authorizing agent shall provide the person with whom cremation arrangements are made with a signed statement specifying the ultimate disposition of the reduced human remains, if known. The crematory licensee may store or retain reduced human remains as directed by the authorizing agent. Records of retention and disposition of reduced human remains shall be kept by the crematory licensee pursuant to G.S. 90-210.127.

§ 90-210.130(b) The authorizing agent is responsible for the disposition of the reduced human remains. If the authorizing agent or the agent's representative has not specified the final disposition or claimed the reduced human remains within 30 days after the crematory licensee provides written notice delivered by certified mail to the authorizing agent's last known address that the reduced human remains are available for retrieval, the crematory licensee or the person in possession of the reduced human remains may release the reduced human remains to another family member or dispose of the reduced human remains only in a manner permitted in this Article. The authorizing agent shall be responsible for reimbursing the crematory licensee for all reasonable expenses incurred in disposing of the reduced human remains pursuant to this section. A record of such disposition shall be made and kept by the person making the disposition. Upon disposing of reduced human remains in accordance with this Article, the crematory licensee or person in possession of the reduced human remains shall be discharged from any legal obligation or liability concerning those reduced human remains.

- § 90-210.130(c)** In addition to the disposal of reduced human remains in a crypt, niche, grave, or scattering garden located in a dedicated cemetery, or by scattering over uninhabited public land, the sea, or other public waterways pursuant to subsection (f) of this section, reduced human remains may be disposed of in any manner on the private property of a consenting owner, upon direction of the authorizing agent. If reduced human remains are to be disposed of by the crematory licensee on private property, other than dedicated cemetery property, the authorizing agent shall provide the crematory licensee with the written consent of the property owner.
- § 90-210.130(d)** Except with the express written permission of the authorizing agent, no person shall do any of the following:
- (1) Dispose of or scatter reduced human remains in such a manner or in such a location that the reduced human remains are commingled with those of another person. This subdivision shall not apply to the scattering of reduced human remains at sea or by air from individual closed containers or to the scattering of cremated remains in an area located in a dedicated cemetery and used exclusively for those purposes.
 - (2) Place reduced human remains of more than one person in the same closed container. This subdivision shall not apply to placing the reduced human remains of members of the same family in a common closed container designed for the reduced human remains of more than one person with the written consent of the family.
- § 90-210.130(e)** Reduced human remains shall be released by the crematory licensee to the individual specified by the authorizing agent on the cremation authorization form. The representative of the crematory licensee and the individual receiving the reduced human remains shall sign a receipt indicating the name of the deceased, and the date, time, and place of the receipt, and contain a representation that the handling of the final disposition will be in a proper manner. After this delivery, the cremated remains may be transported in any manner in this State, without a permit, and disposed of in accordance with the provisions of this Article.
- § 90-210.130(f)** Reduced human remains may be scattered over uninhabited public land, over a public waterway or sea, subject to health and environmental standards, or on the private property of a consenting owner pursuant to subsection (c) of this section. A person may utilize a boat or airplane to perform scattering under this subsection. Reduced human remains shall be removed from their closed container before they are scattered. (1989

(Reg. Sess., 1990), c. 988, s. 1; 1997-399, s. 20; 2003-420, s. 2; 2007-531, s. 24; 2025-76, s. 1.12.)

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS II
1 AUTHORITY

Authorities referenced

Every G.S. cross-reference appearing in the text of this section, in order of first appearance. Nothing is characterized; the operative language is quoted from the section itself.

REFERENCE	APPEARS IN	OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN THIS SECTION
G.S. 90-210.127	(a)	"by the crematory licensee pursuant to"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-210.130 (2026).

PINPOINT
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-210.130(a) (2026).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

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