

A most wet proposal

Although I have yet to make it up to check out the Rosario Cemetery, I was horrified to hear that they dumped all those little bitty rocks on all those poor, decent corpses. Don't the dead deserve more water than future generations? Many of us have stood up and demanded that fresh sod be installed immediately. If you would like to join in our campaign, please visit www.sodthecemetery.com.

Let's look at the situation rationally, okay? How would you feel if you were dead and you were looking up at the bottom of a bunch of cheap, dull gravel? Wouldn't you prefer to be looking up at an intricate web of roots and dark, wet soil?

I know. You're thinking you'll be looking *down* on your grave. Fine. Same deal. Think of all of that lush, deep green that you will be able to sink your eyes into for all of eternity. Do you really think you could stand the glare off of that Santa Fe Brown for more than like, a day?

Then, of course, there's the whole issue

of respect. When I die, I want the focus to be on me. Me, me, me, me. To hell with all you living creatures. You can have all the water woes in the world, but don't you dare disrespect me and my numerous contributions to the environment!

Some, of course, will see the light along spiritual lines. As loving, living human beings, we must, by all means, consider that the dead need all the comfort they can get. How sad it will be for them to not be alive anymore. What if it's lonely? The least we can do is use up our most valuable resource on them, so they don't feel neglected.

Plus, if you are worried about the future, you gotta remember that kids these days are smart, and, with all the science and technology that we will leave behind, they'll figure something out. All they really have to do is learn how to desalinate the rising oceans they'll discover in our wake. Admittedly, pumping all that water up to 7,000 feet

will be a challenge, but right here in town we've been blessed with a company called Conergy Inc., the best solar-pump manufacturer in the world! And, Lord knows, we got plenty of sunlight.

Fellow citizens of this great and enchanted community, it is simply not worth the risk of cutting off the water for our cemetery. A solution to the so-called water "problem" might be staring us straight in the face. Meanwhile, when you think about all the millennia that it took to fill up our aquifers, we've got plenty of time to come up with ideas. Didn't they just find ice on some moon of Jupiter? Friends, the possibilities are outrageous!

Hello? Is anybody out there? I'm surprised our religious community is not up in arms about all those weeds and rocks. Forgive me if I am misinterpreting Scripture, but is gravelling a cemetery any way to treat God's holy creation?

So, please, sign our petition on the web and register for our online newsletter,



NATE DOWNEY

"Proud Cadaver." In every issue you'll find ways to contact elected officials, ideas for organizing demonstrations, and schedule for our famous golf tournament fundraisers and pool party socials.

July, '06

© Nate Downey (424-4444, www.santafepermaculture.com) is president of Santa Fe Permaculture, a locally owned landscape design firm. His first book, *Harvest the Rain*, will be published this year by Sunstone Press. His second book will be a water harvesting "how-to" published by the State of New Mexico.