

Landscapers help beautify Arlington National

From staff reports

A Plus Lawn and Landscape Inc., a member of the Professional Landcare Network (PLANET), participated July 21 in "Renewal & Remembrance" at Arlington National Cemetery and Historic Congressional Cemetery, the Lawrenceburg-based business announced in a news release.

Hundreds of landscape and lawn care specialists from across the nation brought their crews to the cemeteries to spend the day mulching, caring for and cabling trees with lightening protection, pruning, liming,

planting, and aerating as well as installing an irrigation system at Arlington National Cemetery. This gift is valued at more than \$350,000 in services and work, according to a PLANET news release.

"This was an opportunity for us to demonstrate our professional skills and care for two important American monuments," said Tom Shotzbarger, a PLANET member and the chairman of the event.

Many PLANET members have special connections at the cemeteries either through relatives and friends who are buried there or through their

own military service.

The day began at Arlington National Cemetery with a ceremony featuring a joint color guard and speaker presentations to dedicate the day of work to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

"This is the most significant project that PLANET will do this year," Shotzbarger said.

"The natural beauty and quiet grace of Arlington National Cemetery make it a place that we feel compelled to protect and take care of. This extremely worthwhile, meaningful project demonstrates our honor and

remembrance of America's veterans and leaders."

In addition to the work at Arlington National Cemetery, PLANET members also worked at Historic Congressional Cemetery and gave it much-needed attention, the news release said.

On July 22, PLANET members visited their congressional leaders on Capitol Hill and spoke with them about issues facing the green industry, including comprehensive immigration reform.

For more information, visit LandcareNetwork.org, or call the PLANET office at 800-395-2522.