



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**April 9, 2009**

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### **DRAKE'S 7 DEES ANNOUNCES DONATION TO MEDICAL CLINIC**

**Portland, OR.** – Leading Portland luxury landscape design and build firm, Drake's 7 Dees, announced today that the company will be donating their services to the Good News Clinic as part of the nationwide "Day of Service" put on by PLANET on Earth Day, April 22<sup>nd</sup> 2009.

As part of the clinic's adoption, Drake's 7 Dees will be providing landscape services and maintenance for the Good News Clinic's grounds for the foreseeable future. On Earth Day, Drake's 7 Dees' refurbishing of the clinic's landscape will include its' new greenSTART soil conditioning technology. GreenSTART will restore the health of the soil and plants at the clinic in an eco-friendly and long lasting way. Monthly tasks will include plant bed maintenance, shrub and tree pruning, weed control, plant health care. All organic products will be used in the maintenance of the clinic.

PLANET'S Day of Service is a new program that is designed to unite the green industry for a day to help improve the country's green spaces while raising awareness of the lawn care and landscape industry and showing dedication to environmental stewardship. Companies or individuals are welcome to take part in a project, large or small, that will help the environment, while uniting people.

Visitors are welcome to log in to join the "Planet Day of Service" by logging onto the website [www.planetdayofservice.org](http://www.planetdayofservice.org) and signing up.

"Our team is certainly excited about the project and we felt that the Good News Clinic was the perfect recipient," said Drake Snodgrass, Owner of Drake's 7 Dees.

**About Planet, the Professional Landcare Network:** PLANET, the Professional Landcare Network, is an international association serving lawn care professionals, landscape management contractors, design/build/installation professionals, and interior "plantscapers". PLANET provides its' members with a good business foundation to help them evaluate, plan, and better manage their companies. Member firms have direct access to marketing tools, industry specific business publications, updates on legislative issues, and networking opportunities that can assist them in becoming more profitable. For more information on the Planet Day of Service visit: [www.planetdayofservice.org](http://www.planetdayofservice.org).

**About Drake's 7 Dees:** Established in 1956, Drake's 7 Dees has been a full service nursery and the trusted source for gardening, plants and landscaping in Portland for over 50 years. The company operates two successful companies: Drake's 7 Dees Garden Center and Drake's Seven Dees Landscaping. With over three acres of plants and shrubs, Drake's 7 Dees Garden Center is the go to location for plants, shrubs, garden supplies as well as informative seminars. Drake's Seven Dees Landscaping has designed and built many notable and award winning landscapes for both residential and commercial locations. The company is often called upon by prestigious homeowners to design outdoor kitchens, gazebos, gardens and retreats in the Portland Metropolitan area. For more information about Drake's 7 Dees and greenSTART visit: [www.drakes7dees.com](http://www.drakes7dees.com).

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**LebanonTurf Supports PLANET Day of Service  
Through Donation of Products and Volunteers**

LEBANON, PA. (April 8, 2009) – LebanonTurf announced it will support the Professional Landcare Network's (PLANET) national Day of Service on April 22 by providing products and volunteer assistance to help maintain green spaces for area organizations.

LebanonTurf will donate seed and fertilizer to local landscaper Garrett Churchill Inc., and Lebanon personnel will help aerify, seed and fertilize athletic fields at the Glenside (Pa.) Youth Athletic League. LebanonTurf also will provide product to Ephrata Landcare Services along with volunteers to renovate and seed a portion of the grounds and aerify and fertilize a softball field at the Ephrata (Pa.) Church of the Nazarene.

"PLANET's national Day of Service gives the green industry a great platform to support projects that beautify and maintain green spaces and make them more useable for community members," said Mike Sisti, marketing manager for LebanonTurf. "We're delighted to join others in our industry in giving back to the communities where we live and work."

The inaugural PLANET Day of Service is being held in conjunction with Earth Day, the annual worldwide observance of environmental awareness.

LebanonTurf is also involved with PLANET's annual Renewal & Remembrance event, when hundreds of green industry companies donate their time and resources to care for the Arlington National and Historic Congressional cemeteries in Washington. In the past 12 years, PLANET has contributed almost \$2 million to the care of these historic landmarks.

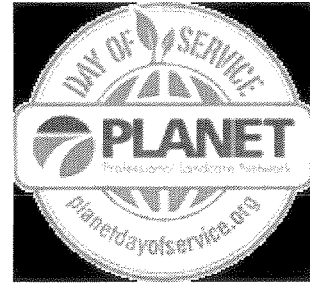
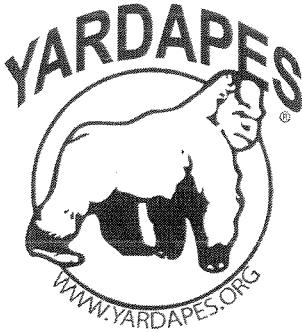
**About PLANET**

PLANET, the nation's lawn care and landscape trade association, is an association of members who create and maintain the quality of life in communities across America. With more than 4,200 member companies and affiliates, these firms represent more than 100,000 green industry professionals. For more information, go to [www.planetdayofservice.com](http://www.planetdayofservice.com).

**About Lebanon Seaboard and LebanonTurf**

Lebanon Seaboard Corp. manufactures and distributes a broad range of professional turf and ornamental products, as well as a wide variety of consumer lawn and garden items. With more than 60 years experience, LebanonTurf, a division of privately held Lebanon Seaboard, is a leader in developing practical and innovative solutions for the turf and landscape maintenance industry. For more information, visit [www.lebsea.com](http://www.lebsea.com), [www.lebanonturf.com](http://www.lebanonturf.com) or call 800-233-0628.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**LEADING NORTHWEST CT LANDSCAPE FIRM YARDAPES  
TEAMS UP WITH PROFESSIONAL LANDCARE NETWORK'S VOLUNTEER  
"PLANET DAY OF SERVICE"  
to BEAUTIFY BROOKFIELD LIBRARY**

This Earth Day, April 22, 2009, president and CEO Shayne Newman, of well-reputed professional landscaping firm YardApes Inc., will descend with a team of volunteers from his highly trained and certified staff to spruce up the curb appeal and revitalize the greenspaces of Brookfield's town library at 182 Whisconier Road, Brookfield, CT.

The YardApes Brookfield project is part of a nationwide "Day of Service" initiated by national Professional Landcare Network lawn and landscape association PLANET, with the goal of giving its over 4,200 member companies and affiliates an opportunity to plan, organize, and carry out projects to give back and benefit their local communities.

YardApes' Newman, a faithful PLANET member and recent Landcare Network Public Relations Committee appointee, touts the event's purpose as a "shining occasion for members of the lawn care and landscape industry to play a publicly vital role as caretakers of the world's green spaces, parks, schools, and public grounds, thereby creating and maintaining a crucial quality- of- life factor in communities across America."

A perennially recognized leader in community service contributions throughout the year, Newman decided to be a charter participant and show commitment to this cause in particular in order to raise awareness about the lawn care and landscape profession while fostering company camaraderie and teamwork, along with the central mission of demonstrating goodwill and environmental stewardship in improving the country's greenspaces while revitalizing the places where people live, work, and play.

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Newman chose the Brookfield Public Library site after engaging with Brookfield Park and Recreation Director Dennis DiPinto. The YardApes volunteer team plans a 'landscape renovation' at the site, which sits on a well-trafficked route not only for locals, but for many pass-through commuters and residents from points both north and south. The renewal project will include the removal of deer-damaged and overgrown plantings, pruning of healthy existing plants, as well as installation of new plants and mulching. Newman is in talks now with industry wholesale nursery distributors who may also donate materials for the cause.

Following Newman's lead, the YardApes staff members are no strangers to community volunteerism. The affectionately nicknamed "apes" are regular participants in company give-back projects and they understand the value doing so can add to their own lives. "It is very important for us at YardApes to continually strive in creating a 'whole' workplace, where the workers feel good about their jobs, reach their professional and educational goals, and have opportunity to stand out as top-notch examples of what land care professionals represent today. "My employees are excited to help out the community, and I am very proud that they are willing to donate their time and energy during the gear up of our busy Spring season. They take pride in their work not only a professional level, but personally as well."

In fact, on his own initiative, YardApes employee Sean Kaiser is working on organizing a possible satellite of the Yardapes PLANET Day of Service project at a second site in the neighboring company home-town base of New Milford, along with the New Milford Youth Agency.

In addition to Earth Day, the month of April also plays host to National Lawn Care Month, and National Arbor Day. "April is also the time of year when many people start thinking about getting outside again. It is important for all of us to take the time to think about the positive impact of a green environment — the aesthetic impact, as well as the environmental and economic," says Newman.


"PLANET reports a lower incidence of crime in neighborhoods with well-kept lawns and landscapes, and a 15 to 20 percent increase in property values. It is critical that we take care of our green spaces and protect them so that everyone in the community can benefit, and it is incumbent on everyone in the community to find ways to enhance the green spaces around us and to consider their own personal responsibility as stewards of the environment."

"We're looking forward to doing our YardApes magic for the people of Brookfield and neighboring towns to enjoy."

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YardApes Inc. is an award-winning Northwestern Connecticut leading provider of residential and commercial landscaping services, landscape design, construction and maintenance.

YardApes Inc. PO Box 982 New Milford, CT 06776 T: 860-350-2737 F: 860-355-9736

[www.yardapes.org](http://www.yardapes.org)  Before you print this or other documents, please consider the impact on the environment.

additional:

*Industry leader President and CEO Shayne Newman, CLP, CLT, is featured in both the recent and upcoming issues of national trade publication Lawn & Landscape Magazine for participating in their invite-only November08 industry event, and in an interview about his prestigious Psychologically Healthy Workplace Awards from the Connecticut affiliate of The American Psychological Association. A firm proponent of continual professional education and lifestyle advancement for employees and healthy companies, Newman was recently accepted to The Connecticut State Chapter of Certified Landscape Committee on Training and Testing to assist in evaluating and setting standards and efficient models for administering certifications industry wide.*

*This season YardApes will also participate once again in Minnesota-based Project EverGreen's GREENCARE FOR TROOPS project, a nationwide outreach program that connects local green industry professionals to provide services for the families of men and women serving our country in the armed forces away from home.*

*Project EverGreen's mission is to preserve and enhance green space in our communities for today and future generations. <http://www.projectevergreen.com/index.html>*

*International Association and Professional Landcare Network PLANET represents and serves more than 100,000 green industry lawn care professionals, landscape management contractors, design/build/installation professionals, and interior plantscapers, providing members with a good business foundation to help them evaluate, plan, and better manage their companies. PLANET develops and maintains active programs for approximately 4,000 member firms in the areas of business management, government affairs, public relations, technical assistance, safety and insurance, education, and inter-industry relations with other facets of the green industry. Lead 2009 PLANET Day of Service Sponsors are: Agrium Advanced Technologies, American Profit Recovery, Inc, JOHN DEERE, Lawns by Yorkshire Inc, and Shindaiwa. For more information, visit [planetdayofservice.org](http://planetdayofservice.org), [LandcareNetwork.org](http://LandcareNetwork.org). 1(800) 395-2522.*

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*Some documented facts from PLANET:*

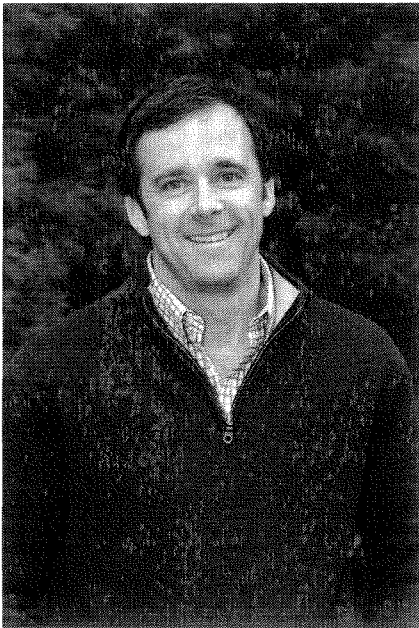
**Currently there are more than 30 million acres of lawn in the United States.**

*These healthy lawns and landscapes provide a cooling effect in summer months; in winter months, well-placed trees and shrubs protect buildings from heat loss. Plants, trees, and grasses also convert carbon dioxide to oxygen, reduce our carbon footprint, absorb rainfall, and stop runoff.*

**Good landscaping increases community appeal.** *Parks and street trees have been found to be second only to education in residents' perceived value of municipal services offered. Psychologist Rachel Kaplan found trees, well-landscaped grounds and places for taking walks to be among the most important factors considered when individuals chose a place to live.*

**Landscaping renews business districts.** *Greening of business districts increases community pride and positive perception of an area, drawing customers to the businesses*

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YardApes' President and CEO Shayne Newman