



# PRESS RELEASE

For more information contact:  
Jennifer Gray, Ohio Nursery & Landscape Association  
72 Dorchester Square, Westerville, OH 43081-3350  
Ph: (614) 899-1195  
Fax: (614) 899-9489

## **Respected Green Industry Professional Receives Award: 2010 ONLA Legislative Advocate of the Year**

February 8, 2010 -- Westerville, Ohio -- It is with great pleasure that the Ohio Nursery & Landscape Association (ONLA) announces the 2010 Legislative Advocate of the Year recipient, Andrew Doesburg, of Thornton Landscapes (Maineville, OH).

Andrew Doesburg is a dedicated and involved green industry supporter. He was raised in Cincinnati and attended Coastal Carolina University, and entered the green industry when his family purchased a landscape company. He has worked in many aspects of the field, including installation, sales, manager, and now as vice president.

Doesburg was elected to the Home Builders Association of Greater Cincinnati Associates Council in 2004 and served as their president in 2007. In 2003 he earned the Certified Landscape Professional designation and has served on numerous PLANET committees including, the safety committee, the recruiting committee, the executive forum (which he chaired one year) and the marketing committee. He was elected to the ONLA board of directors in 2006 and most currently serves as ONLA president.

Doesburg co-hosted a fundraiser for the former Representative, Shannon Jones, who is now an Ohio Senator. He also participated in an event supporting democratic leadership in the House of Representatives. He frequently attends ONLA Advocacy Day and the PLANET Legislative Day, was involved in meetings with the Senate Majority Counsel and House Majority Counsel and has met with representatives and senators on behalf of ONLA businesses.

His thoughts on the value of the ONLA legislative process are:

"We must continually stay out in front of legislative issues to assist our members in the day to day operations of their businesses. We need to fight for what is best for Ohio's green industry. By doing so, we can ensure that Ohio becomes a more attractive and business friendly state for a home and a business.

Doesburg is motivated to participate in green industry legislation through his interactions with legislators, who have become friends over the years. He says that as long as the legislators are willing to listen, he is motivated to work with them, but notes that everyone, himself included, must keep an open mind to all sides of an issue.

The Ohio Nursery & Landscape Association, with over 1,300 members is comprised of nursery stock growers, garden center operators, landscape contractors, landscape design and grounds maintenance firms, arborists, students enrolled in horticulture programs in the state and allied suppliers. The association's annual convention is scheduled January 24-26, 2011, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center and Hyatt Regency Hotel, Columbus, in conjunction with the Central Environmental Nursery Trade Show (CENTS), which the association sponsors. The trade show is open only to persons in the nursery and landscape industry, with registrants numbering over 8000 at the 2010 show. The association, with administrative offices in Westerville, has represented Ohio's vital nursery and landscape industry for over 100 years.

###