

2016 DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY AWARD WINNER
CASE STUDY: HISTORIC CONGRESSIONAL CEMETERY

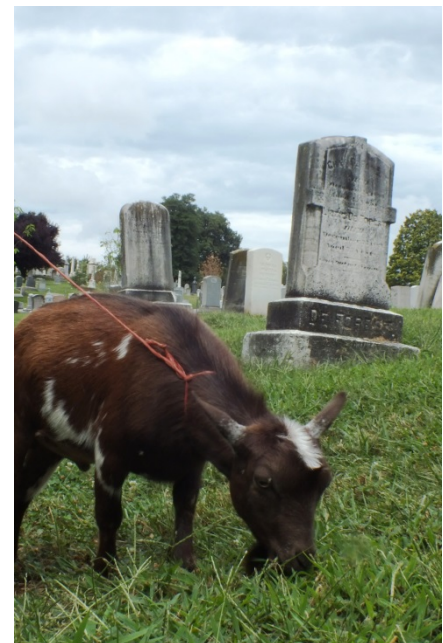


HISTORIC CONGRESSIONAL CEMETERY

The Historic Congressional Cemetery has implemented a wide variety of innovative green practices, especially in the last four years. One of the most popular being the herds of goats brought in to consume invasive weeds across the 35 acres of green space.

The cemetery is the only certified green burial hybrid cemetery in the metro region, allowing a true and natural green burial option without the need of a vault, embalming, or even a casket or box. In 2016, they performed over 8 green burials

Another popular attraction is the 20 honey bee hives on the property which provide pollination throughout Capitol Hill as well as a honey harvest for their gift shop.



BEYOND SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY WORK



Capitol Hill benefits from the cemetery with an adopt-a-plot program where residents can garden a large grave site using local species and learning about those interred there.

The HCC provides free mulch to local residents from their in-house chipping piles.

The HCC also extends its recycling program from staff to events, some of which attract more than 2,000 people.

FULL CIRCLE SUSTAINABILITY

The gatehouse and chapel beds at Historic Congressional Cemetery are planted with native species and all cuttings are recycled to mulch the 2,200 trees on the property. On average, 150 new trees are planted each year.

In 2015, they installed two 10x15 green roofs atop two of the mausoleum row buildings, with plans for more in the future.

They installed nearly 5 miles of roads, replacing impervious asphalt with pavers and sand for water infiltration. Additionally, the vast majority of the monument cleaning consists of only water - either gently sprayed with a water hand pump, or using our misting rig that removes bio growth, lichen, and black grit without the need of any chemical cleaning.

ABOUT THE DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS



The District Sustainability Awards recognize businesses, individuals and organizations for outstanding achievements and leadership in sustainability. The honorees support the goals of the District's sustainability plan, Sustainable DC, in areas such as energy and water conservation, renewable energy production, healthy food access, stormwater management, green jobs development, and sustainable waste management.



From left to right: Margaret Puglisi, Daniel Holcombe, Dayle Dooley, Crystal Pate, Randolph King. Not pictured: Paul Williams