



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW YORK CITY'S AFRICAN BURIAL GROUND RESTORATION FEATURES XCLUDER™ GEO PEST BARRIER

*Stainless Steel Wool-Lined Geotextile Protects
National Monument from Destructive Rodent Burrows*

BUFFALO GROVE, ILL., (Oct. 2, 2012) – Xcluder Geo, a patented geotextile designed to form an impenetrable barrier against burrowing pests, now protects the sacred ground of lower Manhattan's African Burial Ground. Following an extensive restoration of the outdoor memorial, including landscape, drainage and signage upgrades, Xcluder Geo now safeguards New York's first below-ground landmark. The stainless steel fiber-based geotextile prevents rats and other pests from digging beneath the ground while allowing grass and other plants to grow unhindered.

Xcluder Geo, manufactured by GMT, Inc., is installed under the monument's landscaping and uses coarse stainless steel fibers to create an invisible force against pests. The non-corroding material provides a permanent solution against burrowing animals, preserving the burial ground without the use of harmful chemicals.

"From the early stages of this important project, GMT has worked closely with the African Burial Ground design team, landscapers and pest management professionals to ensure an efficient yet comprehensive restoration plan," said Paul Bonn, Business Manager, GMT, Inc. "Xcluder Geo currently protects many public areas nationwide, from parks and amphitheatres to tree boxes throughout New York City, and we're proud to help preserve this sacred area."

"The project mission was to protect this sacred site from unwanted pests in the least obtrusive, most respectful way possible," said Bob Corrigan, Ph.D., Rodent Control Specialist. "Installing Xcluder Geo along with the landscape upgrades provided permanent, safe and environmentally-responsible protection that is invisible to the national monument's visitors."

About The African Burial Ground

The African Burial Ground is a 17th- and 18th-century cemetery that was rediscovered in 1991 when construction began on a federal office building in Lower Manhattan. The 6.6-acre burial ground is considered the largest Colonial-era cemetery for enslaved and free Africans in America and is believed to be the final resting place for more than 15,000 Africans. Today the site is a National Monument featuring a distinctive memorial that commemorates and communicates the story of the African Burial Ground – the single-most important, historic urban archaeological project undertaken in the United States.

About Xcluder Geo

Xcluder Geo uses non-corroding, coarse stainless steel fibers bound to a porous geotextile to create a permanent barrier against destructive burrowing pests. The material installs under landscaping and allows grass and small plants to grow through. Xcluder Geo is non-toxic and safe for the environment. More information about Xcluder Geo is available at www.getxcluder.com.

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