

# Living Christmas Trees

Many people are intrigued by the idea of buying a live tree for Christmas, then planting it outside. It does carry a risk for the tree, but many people are successful. Here's how you do it:

- Dig the hole before the ground freezes and cover with straw or mulch to keep from freezing. Store unfrozen soil in garage or basement to use when you plant.
- Store the tree in a cool but not cold location. Keep the soil cool and moist, but don't allow it to freeze; insulate the pot if necessary.
- Keep the tree indoors for as short a time as possible, just 10 to 14 days. Make the change gradually from garage to cool basement to your room. Repeat this process in reverse when you take it outdoors. You may use an antidessicant spray on foliage before bringing it into house to prevent loss of moisture.
- Water the tree frequently and thoroughly, but never let the soil get dry or muddy.
- Don't set the tree in direct sunlight, or near a heat source. Keep as cool as possible, especially at night.
- After Christmas, plant outdoors in the hole you previously dug for it. Use the unfrozen soil around the root ball. Add 2 to 4 inches of mulch.
- Make sure to water after planting and between freezing and thawing. Continue watering in spring.

**Thank you for purchasing a live Christmas tree from Trees Today Nursery. If you have any questions call us at 783 7333.**

**Happy Holidays!**

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