

*2011 Guide to Pennsylvania-Grown*

# **Christmas Trees & Holiday Family Adventures**

FRESH HARVEST FARMS, RETAIL TREE LOTS, GIFT SHOPS, SPECIAL HOLIDAY EVENTS





# HISTORY

## GROWING CHRISTMAS TREES IN PENNSYLVANIA

The earliest recorded enjoyment of Christmas trees took place in the early 1500's in Ammerschweier, Germany. The tradition caught on so quickly that in 1539, in an attempt to protect the area's wood resources, an ordinance was enacted preventing the cutting of trees greater than eight feet in height for use as Christmas trees. By the late 1600's, German immigrants had brought the tradition to the "New World." By the first U.S. Census in 1790, one-third of Pennsylvania's population was of German descent, which played a major role in spreading throughout the state the tradition of decorating a tree for Christmas. In 1851, an enterprising New Yorker hauled several loads of wilderness-cut trees to New York City, thus establishing the first Christmas tree market in the United States.<sup>1</sup>

As cutting outpaced regeneration, the distance trees were transported from forest to market became longer and longer. Finally, in 1901, the first Christmas tree farm in the United States was established in Mercer County, NJ.<sup>21</sup> Soon other farmers were helping to fill the demand for



Christmas trees, thus greatly reducing the over cutting of American forests. Cultural practices, which up to this time had only been applied to more traditional crops such as corn and grain, were now being applied to Christmas trees. Finding improved sources of seed became paramount, leading to the establishment, in 1938, of the first Christmas tree nursery, in Indiana County, PA. Christmas trees take seven to twelve years to mature, however, and genetic testing and advancement remain a slow and tedious process.

Soon thereafter, the Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers Association (PCTGA) was founded in 1944 when a group of growers came together to discuss pest issues, marketing, and industry conditions. To this day, PA growers continue to gather to learn how to create the best product possible. Pennsylvania also originated the practice of shearing Christmas trees when a farmer in Columbia County developed a method for shearing Scotch Pine that created a shapely, more eye-appealing tree. Today, the vast majority of Christmas trees grown in Pennsylvania, and throughout the United States are sheared annually.

Pennsylvania currently ranks second in the nation for the number of Christmas tree farms and ranks fourth in the nation in number of Christmas trees cut each year and acres in production. PA is home to over 1,200 farms covering nearly 35,000 acres that produce 1.2 million cut trees each year. These farms have more than \$13.9 million in sales annually.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Ann Kirk Davis, "The Wonderful World of Christmas Trees" First Edition, 1998, pp 4-5, 10-11, 17-21

<sup>2</sup> 2007 USDA Agricultural Census

# Alphabetical Listings

## **ABRACZINSKAS NURSERIES, INC. – COLUMBIA CTY.**

Catawissa, PA

**P:** 570.356.2323 **F:** 570.356.2366

**E-mail:** abs@sunlink.net

**Hours:** 10 am–4 pm, Nov. 25–Dec. 20

**Trees:** DF, FF, CBS

**Features:** C&C, you choose and we cut, free use of saws, BL, coffee, hot chocolate and more!

**Directions:** Customers should call our office for location and directions to our retail location, as it can change from year to year.

## **BLUE RIDGE CHRISTMAS TREE FARM – LEBANON CTY.**

Annville, PA

**P:** 717.865.8062 **Cell:** 717.574.8391

**E-mail:** Tyler@BlueRidgeTrees.com

**Hours:** Nov. 25 thru Dec. 21  
Monday–Friday 12–7 pm  
Saturday 9 am–5 pm  
Sunday 10 am–5 pm

**Trees:** FF, DF, CRF, CNF, BS, WP, SWP

**Features:** C&C, fresh cut, SH, DL, BL, LD, saws provided, tree field location map, tree carts, fresh homemade wreaths, greens, family-friendly environment, restrooms, Christmas shop, tree accessories, large FF and DF up to 15', farm size is 132 acres, bring your hiking boots and warm clothes, bring your camera for family Christmas photos with our 10' Frosty the Snowman balloon and 12' Santa and Rudolph balloon, face cut-outs, go to [www.BlueRidgeTrees.com](http://www.BlueRidgeTrees.com) for more information.

**Directions:** From Harrisburg: 81 North use exit 85A. 81 South use exit 85. Take 934 south for ½ mile. Turn right at the blinking light at Harper's Tavern (Old Jonestown Road). Travel ½ mile. Turn left onto School House Road. Travel 1 mile to farm on right.

From Annville: Take 934 north until you reach the blinking light at Harper's Tavern (Old Jonestown Road). Travel ½ mile. Turn left onto School House Road. Travel 1 mile to farm on right.

## **CHRISTMAS TREE HILL – CARBON CTY.**

Lehighton, PA

**P:** 570.386.2236

**Hours:** 9 am–8 pm Nov. 24–Dec. 24

**Trees:** BS, FF, DF, CF

**Features:** Saws provided, DL, stand straight, wreaths.

## **DEAN'S TREES – NORTHUMBERLAND & LANCASTER CTYS.**

Lancaster, PA

**P:** 717.569.1007 or 717.569.4748

**F:** 717.569.6385

**E-mail:** dean'streespa@aol.com

**Hours:** Monday–Saturday 9am–9 pm,  
Sunday 9 am–7 pm  
Nov. 25–Dec. 25

**Trees:** DF, FF, CRF

**Features:** Custom wreaths, delivery available, super service, DL, BL, LD, C&C.

**Directions:** 283 South to 501 North. 2 miles to Brooklawn Farm Market Dean's Trees.

## **E-MAR ACRES TREE FARM – INDIANA CTY.**

Saltsburg, PA

**P:** 724.639.3823, 724.244.7003

**F:** 724.639.0302

**E-mail:** ronmancabelli@hotmail.com

**Hours:** 8 am–10 pm Nov. 24–Dec. 23

**Trees:** DF, FF, CRF, CNF, WP, BF, GF

**Directions:** Retail lot location: 222 Point Street, Saltsburg, PA. Take Route 286 North toward Indiana, PA approximately 2 miles. Turn left on Nowrytown Road and travel approximately 1½ miles to top of hill. E-Mar Acres sign and white barn, which is the base of the operations, will be on the right.

# Alphabetical Listings

Continued...

## FARR'S CHRISTMAS TREE FARM – LYCOMING CTY.

Jersey Shore, PA

**P:** 570.398.1819 **F:** 570.398.2265

**E-mail:** goldiefarr@yahoo.com

**Hours:** 9 am–4:30 pm Saturdays and Sundays starting Thanksgiving

**Trees:** FF, CRF, CNF, BS

**Directions:** From Williamsport, take 220S to 287 N. Go approximately 3 miles. Take 973 W ½ mile to Canoe Run Road. 1 mile on the right.

## GREEN VALLEY FARM – LEHIGH CTY.

Slatington, PA

**P:** 610.767.8283 or 702.469.1241

**E-mail:** bernardsgreenvalleyfarm@yahoo.com

**Hours:** Wednesday–Friday 2–5 pm  
Saturday–Sunday 9 am–5 pm  
Thanksgiving — Christmas

**Trees:** DF, FF, CRF

**Features:** DL, BL, SH, refreshments, gift shop, hay rides.

**Directions:** 2925 High Hill Road, Slatington, PA 18080.

## GRUVER'S NURSERY – YORK, CUMBERLAND AND DAUPHIN CTYS.

New Cumberland, PA

**P:** 717.774.3299

**E-mail:** info@gruverstreefarm.com

**Hours:** Farm: Monday–Friday 2–5 p.m.; Saturday 8 am–5 pm; Sunday 10 am–5 pm Nov. 25–27, Dec. 1–18.

Retail lot: Monday–Friday 11 am–8 pm; Saturday 8 am–8 pm; Sunday 10 am–8 pm Dec. 1–23

**Trees:** DF, FF, CRF, WP, SS, WS, Hemlock

**Features:** DL, tree roping, tree carts, cut your own, pre-cut. Live trees available. Trees up to 18'. Pre-tagging for large trees is suggested.

**Directions:** Farm: Exit 39A Interstate 83. 114 West ½ mile to Stether road. Right on Stether Road. Watch for sign. Retail lot: 100 Lewisberry Road, New Cumberland.

## HALL BROTHERS FRUIT AND TREE FARM – ADAMS CTY.

Orrtanna, PA

**P:** 717.677.7184, 717.357.8206

**E-mail:** dhall1@embarqmail.com

**Hours:** 9:30 am–4:30 pm  
Thanksgiving–Christmas

**Trees:** FF, DF, CRF, SP, WP

**Features:** You choose the tree and we can cut for you. DL and BL.

**Directions:** Halfway between Chambersburg and Gettysburg. From Rt. 30, take 234 East 4.5 miles. Look for signs.

## HILL FARMS – CARBON CTY.

Lehighton, PA

**P:** 570.386.2816

**E-mail:** hilltree@ptd.net

**Hours:** 8 am–4:30 pm  
Nov. 25–Dec. 22

**Trees:** FF, DF, CRF

**Features:** C&C, pre-cut. Free DL, BL and SH. Gift shop, custom and pre-made wreaths and greenery. Hot food and drinks available on weekends.

**Directions:** See website: [www.hillfarms.com](http://www.hillfarms.com).

## KALIE'S CHRISTMAS TREE FARM – LUZERNE CTY.

Shickshinny, PA

**P:** 570.864.0112

**E-mail:** kaliestreefarm@hotmail.com

**Hours:** Friday–Sunday 8 am–5 p.m.  
Black Friday–Christmas

**Trees:** FF, DF, CRF, CNF, BS

**Features:** DL for tree stands, hand saws, tree carts, baling machine to wrap trees, large parking area.

**Directions:** 238 Hetcheltooth Road, Shickshinny, PA 18655.

# Alphabetical Listings

Continued...

## MAHANTONGO VALLEY FARMS – NORTHUMBERLAND AND SCHUYLKILL CTYS.

Pitman, PA

**P:** 570.648.7397 or 570.644.2187

**E-mail:** mvfjl@sunlink.net

**Hours:** Nov. 25 and weekends: 8 am–5 pm  
Other days by appointment.  
Nov. 25–Dec. 23

**Trees:** DF, WP, CNF, CRF, FF

**Features:** DL, BL.

**Directions:** Located between Hegins and Shamokin off PA 125, south of Interstate 81. Call for more info.

## MAURER'S TREE FARM – NORTHUMBERLAND CTY.

Dalmatia, PA

**P:** 570.758.3210

**E-mail:** cindymaurer@tds.net

**Trees:** FF, DF, CRF, Korean

**Features:** Free weekend pony wagon rides, hot chocolate, cookies, craft shop, wreaths, free cutting, SH and BL.

**Directions:** 8 miles north of Millersburg. 20 miles south of Sunbury. Turn off Rt. 147 onto Mahantongo Creek Road to the town of Malta. Go 1 mile north on Malta Road.

## McCURDY'S TREE FARM – YORK AND CUMBERLAND CTYS.

Dillsburg, PA

**P:** 717.432.4017 **F:** 717.432.2467

**E-mail:** diane@mccurdystreefarm.com

**Hours:** Opens Nov. 25. Hours will be posted on the website closer to the season.

**Features:** Saws, SH, DL. Restrooms. Wrapping. Campfire weekends. Wagon rides when weather permits. Tree stands, related products, wreaths and roping available.

**Directions** to our main location at 127 Chestnut Grove Road, Dillsburg, PA 17019

**From Camp Hill/Harrisburg:** Take Route 15 South, and take the FIRST LEFT after Lisburn Road onto Carroll Drive. Turn left at the stop sign onto Chestnut Grove Road. Tree Farm on the right. **From Carlisle:** Take Route 74 to Route 15 intersection. Turn left onto Route 15. At the McDonalds/Giant light, turn right. At the stop sign, turn left onto Siddonsburg Road. Travel approximately 1 mile and turn left onto Chestnut Grove Road. We are on the right 1/4 mile. **From York:** Take Route 74 to Route 15 North. Turn right onto Route 15. Turn right at the McDonalds/Giant light. At the stop sign, turn left onto Siddonsburg Road. Travel approximately 1 mile and turn left onto Chestnut Grove Road. We are on the right 1/4 mile.



# Alphabetical Listings

Continued...

## MISTY RUN TREE FARM – LEBANON CTY.

Annville, PA

P: 717.867.1715 F: 717.867.1715

**E-mail:** misty2017@comcast.net

**Hours:** Monday–Saturday 9 am–5 pm,  
Sunday 10 am–5 pm  
Nov. 20–Dec. 20

**Trees:** FF, CRF, DF, WP, BS

**Features:** Gift shop, saws and tree carts, DL  
and wrapping, restrooms.

**Directions:** Reference website for information  
on directions to the farm. [mistryruntreefarm.com](http://mistryruntreefarm.com)

## PONDUCE FARMS – COLUMBIA CTY.

Elysburg, PA

P: 570.799.0376

**E-mail:** djswreaths@msn.com

**Hours:** 10 am–7 pm  
Day after Thanksgiving—Dec. 20

**Trees:** DF, FF BS

**Features:** Gift shop, restaurant, hayride, C&C,  
pre-cut, wreaths, cookies and cocoa.

**Directions:** 20 minutes from I-80 Exit #232  
Buckhorn/Bloomsburg. Follow Rt. 42S 12 miles  
to White Church Road Numidia. Turn right onto  
White Church Road. Go 1½ miles.

## ROSENBERGER CHRISTMAS TREE FARM – BEAVER CTY.

Beaver Falls, PA

P: 724.846.8494

**E-mail:** rosen115@verizon.net

**Hours:** Weekdays 1 pm–6 pm  
Weekends 9 am–5 pm  
Dec. 3–23

**Trees:** CNF, BS, SP, WP, pre-cut FF

**Features:** C&C, we cut, BL, level property,  
heated restroom, saws provided.

**Directions: From lower Beaver County:** Take  
Rt. 65 North. Turn right onto Harpers Ferry Road,  
which is 1½ miles past the intersection of Rt 588  
and Rt 65. There will be a Rosenberger Christmas  
Tree Farm sign where you will be making your  
turn. **From Lawrence County and northern  
Beaver County:** Take Rt 65 South and make the  
left turn onto Harpers Ferry Road, approximately  
3 miles south of Olde Stonewall Golf Course.  
From Allegheny and Butler Counties: Take I 79/  
Route 19 to Zelienople. Turn west off of Route  
19 onto Route 588. This intersection is where  
the Kaufman House Hotel/Restaurant is located.  
Travel on Route 588 West approximately 8 miles  
until you come to the Route 65 intersection.  
Turn right onto Route 65 North and travel  
approximately 1½ miles to Harpers Ferry Road  
where you will turn right (at our sign). **For all of  
you:** Travel 2 miles on Harpers Ferry Road and  
then turn left onto John Brown Street (country  
lane). We will have a sign placed there as well.  
You found us!



# Alphabetical Listings

Continued...

## SHOWERS TREE FARM – ADAMS CTY.

Aspers, PA

**P:** 717.677.6816 **F:** 717.677.8747

**Hours:** Spring: March–May,  
by appointment only.  
Fall: Sept.–Nov.,  
by appointment only  
X-mas Season: Nov. – Dec. 24th,  
open 7 days/week 8 am-6 pm

**Trees:** DF, CNF, FF, NS, BS, WP

**Features:** Free BL, LD, DL. Petting zoo, craft shop, tree stands. Free hayrides & Santa first two weekends in December.

**Directions:** 10 miles north of Gettysburg off Route 34

## STRATHMEYER CHRISTMAS TREES – YORK CTY.

Dover, PA

**P:** 717.292.5683 or 800.345.3406

**F:** 717.292.4129

**E-mail:** sales@strathmeyer.com

**Hours:** Monday–Saturday 9 am–9 pm  
Sunday 9 am–5 pm  
Nov. 25–Dec. 24

**Trees:** DF, CRF, CNF, FF, WP, SP

**Features:** DL, delivery, set-up, special orders, wagon rides, saws provided, Trees for Troops: first weekend in Dec.

**Directions:** York Expo Center: 334 Carlisle Road, York, PA 17404. Family tree farm: 4874 Dairy Road, Red Lion, PA 17356.

## TLC TREE FARM – SCHUYLKILL CTY.

Hegins, PA

**P:** 570.682.9890

**E-mail:** tlctree@comcast.net

**Hours:** Tuesday–Friday 2–6 pm  
Saturday 10 am–5 pm  
Sunday 1–5 pm

**Trees:** FF, BS, GF, CRF, DF

**Features:** Hand saws, portable toilet, tree wrapping, DL, SH.

**Directions:** PA Route 25 3 miles west of Interstate 81 and 2 miles east of Hegins; intersection of PA Route 25 and PA Route 125.

## VARNER FARMS – MONTGOMERY CTY.

Collegeville, PA

**P:** 610.489.8878 **F:** 610.489.0676

**E-mail:** varnersfarm@aol.com

**Hours:** Open September 7–December 23.  
Sept.–Oct.: Monday–Saturday 9 am–7 pm; Nov.: Monday–Saturday 9 am–5 pm; Nov. 25–Dec. 23: 8 am–8 pm; Closed Sundays.

**Trees:** FF, BS, CRF, DF, WP

**Features:** Pick your own apples and pumpkins, Christmas trees, horse-drawn wagon rides, corn maze, gift shoppe, train display. Fall Harvest Festival Sept. 24. Live Nativity Dec. 17.

**Directions:** From Rt. 422, take Collegeville Exit to South Rt. 29 to right onto Black Rock Road to right onto Rt. 113 to farm on left, or 2 miles south of Collegeville on Rt. 113.



# Alphabetical Listings

Continued...

## WALKER'S TREE FARM – CARBON CTY.

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Lehigh, PA

**P:** 610.377.1829 **F:** 610.377.1580

**E-mail:** walkers@ptd.net

**Hours:** 10 am–4:30 pm Open Thanksgiving weekend

**Trees:** DF, FF, CNF, WP, BS, large CRF

**Features:** On weekdays, we provide saws, carts, DL and BL. Special weekends: Thanksgiving weekend, Dec. 3-4 and 10-11. Belgian horse-drawn wagon ride into field, Santa, food, gift shop and more.

**Directions:** Exit 74 PA tpk: Go left after toll then right and make a right onto 209 S. At the Shell Gas Station, make a right onto Main Rd. Go to stop and turn right, a T in road, turn left, then turn right at crossroad. Go past Christmas trees and after sign go left at Y.

## WESTLAKE TREE FARMS – CHESTER CTY.

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Pottstown, PA

**P:** 610.469.6913 **F:** 610.469.0579

**E-mail:** gary@westlaketreefarms.com

**Hours:** Nov. 25–Dec. 18. 9 am–5 pm  
Closed Thanksgiving, Monday,  
Tuesday and Wednesday.

**Trees:** FF, DF

**Features:** Free BL, SH and DL. Saws provided, wreaths and greens. Gift shop, Santa, O scale trains, concessions and tractor rides on weekends.

**Directions:** Route 100 South right onto 23 West, follow for 3½ miles. Right onto St. Peters Road, follow signs.

## WINDRIDGE FARM – CHESTER CTY.

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Chester Springs, PA

**E-mail:** adarahfarm@aol.com

**Hours:** Monday–Friday: 2–5 pm  
Weekends: 8 am–5 pm  
Friday after Thanksgiving–Dec. 23

**Trees:** CNF, FF, DF, CRF, BS

**Features:** Saws, BL, hay wagons, hot chocolate, coffee, cookies.

**Directions:** At Ludwigs Corner (Pottstown Pike and Conestoga Road) north on Pottstown Pike to right turn onto Birchrun Road, straight to bait left lane to farm on left.

## YENSER'S TREE FARM – CARBON CTY.

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Lehigh, PA

**P:** 570.386.5981 **F:** 570.386.2275

**E-mail:** dbyenser@ptd.net

**Hours:** 9 am–5 pm Nov. 25–Dec. 22

**Trees:** DF, FF, CRF, WP, BS, NS

**Features:** Full service: cutting, hauling, BL, SH and LD. Trees for Troops drop trailer: first week of Dec.

**Directions:** 1910 Mahoning Drive East, Lehigh, PA 18235. 2 miles east of Lehigh on Rt. 902.





# REAL TREES

## AFTER THE HOLIDAYS...

### *Christmas Trees Take On A New Life After the Holidays*

Christmas trees are more than just the celebration of life during the holidays; they're a source of life after it. Each year more consumers are discovering the recyclable, renewable benefits of real Christmas trees.

Real Christmas trees, unlike artificial ones which aren't biodegradable and will remain in landfills for centuries after they're disposed of, can provide something back to the environment in a variety of ways:

- **Christmas trees are biodegradable** — the trunk and branches can be used as mulch for gardens, parks or in animal stalls. The mulch provides a protect barrier for the roots of other plants and vegetation while preventing weeds from growing. The mulch then decomposes, providing the nutrients plants need to thrive.
- **Mulching programs** are a fast-growing trend in communities throughout the nation. Check with your local department of public works for information.
- Some communities use Christmas trees to make effective **sand and soil erosion barriers**, especially at beaches and on river beds. Sunk into private fish ponds trees make excellent refuge and feeding area for fish.
- Before recycling, Christmas trees can be used to make **bird feeders**, adding color and excitement to the winter garden. Utilize orange slices, suet, and seed to attract the birds. They will come for the food and stay for the shelter in the branches.

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**IMPORTANT:** Never burn your Christmas tree in a fireplace or wood stove. Burning the tree may contribute to creosote buildup.

**NOTE:** Living trees have a better survival rate in mild climates.

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# REAL TREES



REAL TREE CARE • SAFETY • ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY

## Real Tree Care

### Caring for your real Christmas tree is easy...

The most important thing to remember is that real trees need water — just like a fresh bouquet of flowers. If you are not ready to decorate it, keep the tree outdoors, protected from the wind and sun until you are ready to bring the tree into your home.

Before bringing the tree into your home and placing it in a stand, make a fresh cut, a maximum of one-half inch, from the base of the trunk. This opens the tree stem so it can absorb water. Immediately place your tree in the stand and fill with fresh water. Keep in mind, if you allow the water level to drop below the fresh cut, a new seal will form over the stem.

### Trees are very thirsty.

They will drink between two pints and a gallon of water a day. Use a water-bearing stand with a water capacity of at least one gallon or more. Check the stand daily and supply fresh water as needed. Trees ONLY need water, nothing else, to stay green in your home.

### Holiday Safety

Check all electric lights and connections before decorating your tree and home. Do not use lights with worn or frayed cords and NEVER use lighted candles on your tree. Do not overload electrical circuits. Place your tree away from fireplaces and other heat sources. These elements can prematurely dry your tree. And, be sure to turn off all decorations before retiring at night, and at any time you leave home.

More people than ever are concerned with how things affect the environment. One choice that can easily help families to do their part is to use a fresh, natural Real Christmas Tree as the center of their holiday celebration.

Real Christmas Trees are an all-American, recyclable, and renewable resource that has continued uses after the holiday season is over. Unlike artificial trees, which cannot be easily recycled and provide no benefits to the environment, Real Trees can be converted into much or used as a refuge/feeding station for wild birds in the winter.

Many people perceive cutting down trees as bad for the environment, but Real Trees no longer come from the forest. They are grown on farms throughout North America. According to the National Christmas Tree Association (NCTA), 98% of all Christmas trees are grown on farms.

Real Christmas Trees absorb Carbon Dioxide and other gases to create fresh oxygen. The 1 million acres of Christmas trees in the United



States translates into oxygen for 18 million people every day. For every Real Tree harvested, an average of 3 seedlings are planted in its place. Most artificial trees are manufactured overseas from petroleum and plastics. Real trees are a homegrown, renewable resource.

There are approximately 25–30 million Real Christmas Trees sold in the U.S. every year.<sup>1</sup> Make the environmentally friendly choice — a fresh, farm-grown Real Christmas Tree.

<sup>1</sup> National Christmas Tree Association, [www.christmastree.org](http://www.christmastree.org)





# SELECTION GUIDE

## TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS TREES

### **BALSAM FIR**

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Found throughout the Canadian Maritimes and remote parts of northern New England, this fir was the first plantation-grown Christmas tree in the Northeast. Its soft, dark green foliage, with flattened needles about three-quarters of an inch in length, has a distinctive "balsam" aroma. Its sturdy branching and excellent needle retention have made it a longtime favorite Christmas tree.

### **CANAAN FIR**

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Found widely within the Canaan Valley of northeastern West Virginia, this tree is a genetic variation of traditional Balsam Fir. Native also to Pennsylvania and New York where it can be found in remote stands, its range extends as far north as Sheet Harbour, Nova Scotia. Although similar in appearance to the traditional sources, its needles tend to be longer, about one inch in length, and vary more in color. Its foliage, however, can often retain the bottlebrush appearance of Fraser Fir, its southern counterpart. Relatively new to the Christmas tree industry, its popularity continues to rise.

### **COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE**

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Found throughout the central Rockies, this spruce borrows its name from the Centennial State and has stout, three-sided needles about three-quarters of an inch in length. Its foliage can vary in color from dark green to indigo blue. Its sturdy branching and good needle retention make it a desirable Christmas tree, while its excellent form and outstanding color make it the premier ornamental evergreen.

### **CONCOLOR FIR**

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Most commonly known as White Fir, this evergreen is widely distributed throughout the southwestern United States, for the Rockies of Colorado and New Mexico in the east, to California's Sierra Nevada range in the west. Its soft, silvery-blue foliage, with flattened needles about two to three inches in length, has a distinctive citrus aroma. Its outstanding color and excellent needle retention make it an increasingly popular Christmas tree.

### **DOUGLAS FIR**

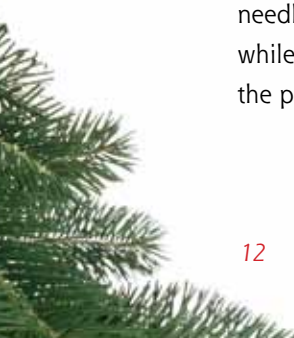
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First studied by Scottish botanist, David Douglas, in the 1820's, this conifer is widely distributed throughout western North America from the interior lake country of British Columbia to the mountains of Mexico. Found in the central Rockies, the hardy "blue" strain is widely used as a Christmas tree in the Northeast. Its lush, blue-green foliage, with needles about one inch in length, is very attractive. Its sturdy branching and outstanding needle retention make this evergreen a holiday favorite.

### **ENGLEMAN SPRUCE**

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This spruce is an evergreen having four-sided sharp needles. It prefers a climate that is cool and damp. The Engleman Spruce and White Spruce are nearly exactly alike except for the cones. In both species, the top limbs tend to curve upwards while lower branches droop.







# SELECTION GUIDE

## TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS TREES *continued...*

### **FRASER FIR**

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Also known as "Southern Balsam," this stately fir, native to the Great Smoky Mountains of western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee, is closely related to its northern counterpart. Its soft, emerald-green needles with silvery undersides are about three-quarters of an inch in length. Its bottlebrush texture, sturdy branching, and outstanding needle retention make it a superb Christmas tree whose popularity has grown rapidly in recent years.

### **GRAND FIR**

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The majestic grand fir is the largest of the firs. It grows primarily in forests near the ocean, such as the Pacific coast. This fir grows in dry to moist coniferous forests in rain shadow areas, often in association with Douglas-fir. It commonly ranges from river flats to fairly dry slopes from low to middle elevations. Needles are flat with rounded and notched ends and are arranged to form flat sprays that show both the upper and lower surfaces of the twig. When crushed, its needles release an odor of citronella or oranges.

### **NORWAY SPRUCE**

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Native to the great Baltic conifer forest of northern Europe, this tree has shiny, dark green foliage with needles about one-half inch in length. Often found at a choose & harvest plantation, the rich foliage of this spruce can exhibit good needle retention with proper care. Its value as an ornamental landscape tree is also widely recognized.

### **SCOTCH PINE**

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Known as the cosmopolitan tree of Europe, this conifer was one of the first plantation-grown Christmas trees in the United States. Its sharp, blue-green foliage, with needles about two to three inches in length, can be sheared to an appealing density. Its conical shape, excellent color, and needle retention made it the Christmas tree of choice for many years.

### **SERBIAN SPRUCE**

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Serbian spruce's narrowly columnar form is easily recognized. This spruce has a particularly graceful look with a very slender trunk, drooping branches that ascend at the tips, and a narrow top. Its bark is thin and coffee-brown scales peel off in platelets. Needles are flat and dark green with silver bands on the underside. Serbian spruce is resistant to most pests and quite drought tolerant.

### **WHITE PINE**

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Widely distributed throughout the forests of eastern North America, this tree, native to the Northeast, has soft, lacy, blue-green foliage with needles about three to four inches in length. A very graceful-looking evergreen, its fragrance and excellent needle retention made it a popular Christmas tree for many years, especially in the traditional South.

### **WHITE SPRUCE**

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Spanning the entire width of North America, this spruce is a decidedly Northland tree found throughout the lake-studded Canadian Shield and northern United States. Its delicate, blue-green foliage, with needles about one-half inch in length, is very appealing. Given proper care, this tree also exhibits good needle retention and can be found most often in a choose & harvest plantation. Its excellent form and color make it an exceptional Christmas tree.



# SELECTION GUIDE



## CODES AND ABBREVIATIONS



### Codes and Abbreviations

S – Spruce	BS	Blue Spruce
	CBS	Colorado Blue Spruce
	NS	Norway Spruce
	SS	Serbian Spruce
	WS	White Spruce
F – Fir	BF	Balsam Fir
	CNF	Canaan Fir
	CRF	Concolor Fir
	DF	Douglas Fir
	FF	Fraser Fir
	GF	Grand Fir
	KF	Korean Fir
	NF	Noble Fir
P – Pine	AP	Austrian Pine
	RP	Red Pine
	SP	Scotch Pine
	SRB	Serbian Pine
	SWP	Southwest Pine
	WP	White Pine
B&B	(Balled & Burlapped) trees are living and replantable	
C&C	(Choose & Cut) selecting & cutting your own trees	
Fresh-Cut	Trees cut daily for retail and other lots	
BL	(Baling) Wrapping trees in twine or netting for transport	
DL	Drilling hole in stump of tree for tree stands	
LD	Loading assistance available to put your trees onto your vehicle	
SH	Shaking trees before baling to remove loose needles	





This pamphlet has been prepared by the Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers Association and is furnished in part by a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. The member growers listed make their farms available to you for cutting or selecting your own Christmas tree. The farms and businesses are listed alphabetically with telephone numbers for each. We suggest you call before visiting a farm for any other directions or changes in time of operation. Please remember that when visiting a farm or tree lot, you will want your family to enjoy their time — dress comfortably, but warm in seasonal clothing. Ask for assistance if required, and *please* supervise children.

Christmas tree farms provide green belts in urban and suburban areas and help clean the environment by providing oxygen for the atmosphere. Christmas trees are a natural and recyclable product. We hope you have an enjoyable time selecting a Pennsylvania-grown Christmas tree! For additional information on Christmas trees, call 800-547-2842.



**PENNSYLVANIA CHRISTMAS TREE GROWERS ASSOCIATION**

4305 North Sixth Street, Suite A  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Buyer/Seller Hotline: [www.christmastrees.org](http://www.christmastrees.org)  
Available October 1 thru December 23

*All the Best This Holiday Season From Your Real Tree Retailer and Grower,  
The Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers Association*