

Happy Holidays from the staff at Five Oaks Nursery!!

Special points of interest:

- Have a Living Christmas tree!
- Why Plants are Beneficial
- Calendar of events

Calendar of Events...

2009

December

- December 18th—January 4th the nursery will be CLOSED.

2010

February

- 13th - 14th: The Wilmington Garden Show, Schwartz Center Admission Fee.

March

- 27th—28th: Poplar Grove Plant & Garden Sale, Poplar Grove Plantation. Call for sale times. FREE.

June

- 24th: 10:30 am. 'New-Comer' Lecture at the NHC Arboretum. FREE.

Hours of Operation:

March-October

Mon.—Fri. 8am—5pm.

Sat. 9am-2pm

Sun. Closed

November-February

Mon.-Fri. 8am-5pm

Sat. & Sun. Closed

Living Christmas Trees: A Different Twist on the cut Tree Tradition.

Thanksgiving has come and gone and Christmas will be here before you know it.

Every year millions of trees are cut and sold to be used in homes around the world as part of the Christmas celebration. This year think outside of the box and decorate a tree that can be planted in the yard! It just takes a little thought and planning to have something special in your yard for fond memories year after year.

Picking the Right Evergreen

Remember that this tree is going into your yard - think about what kind of plant you are looking for. Do you need a large upright tree or more of a broad growing plant? Are you looking for a tree that is a slow growing specimen, or maybe a fast growing screen?

There are a lot of different evergreen trees and shrubs that can be used as a Christmas tree. Some are more conventional while others take a more unique approach to the tradition.

For a more traditional look, we suggest conifers or holly species. They have a more pyramidal nature shape that resembles traditional Christmas trees. They have sturdy branches that can usually support even the heaviest of ornaments. Nellie Stevens hollies are a great choice.

If you are looking for something a

little different, things like Deodor cedars, Carolina Sapphire cypress or palm trees hold lights well and can give you different hues of green and blue to work with.

Benefits of a Living Christmas Tree

1. A living tree is a MUCH Greener option to cutting and



Nellie Stevens Holly decorated for the holidays

throwing away trees.

2. Economically speaking, money spent on a traditional cut tree is the same money you would be spending on a beautiful landscape plant anyway! Not to mention, a live tree is probably cheaper than any artificial tree you might find.

3. Safety! A live tree is less of a fire hazard in your home than a cut tree or an artificial tree.

Preparing for your Living Christmas Tree

Have the sight for your new plant picked out. Pick the location in your

house—make sure there are no air vents blowing on your tree. It is also a good idea to have a plan for gathering any excess water that may leak from the container. Line a tub or container that the tree will be placed in with plastic to keep excess water from dripping onto your floor.

Now...decorate and enjoy!!

Planting Your Tree

Once the holidays are over it will be time for you to move your tree to its new home.

Install your tree as usual. Be sure to break up the rootball once it is removed from its pot. Water it in well and mulch. DO NOT apply any fertilizer to the tree until Spring.

This is a fantastic option for those that would like to take a different approach to a old tradition.

Holiday Gift Ideas

Five Oaks Nursery Gift Certificates make great holiday gifts!

Can be purchased in any amount and used anytime.

You can purchase a gift certificate with a credit card over the phone and we will even send it out for you to make your holiday shopping as easy as possible.

Just give us a call and we'll take care of the rest!

"If winter comes, can spring be far behind?"

Percy Bysshe Shelley

Why We LOVE Plants!

We LOVE plants for lots of reason...they are pretty, they smell good, they have pretty flowers, etc. However, there are a lot of reasons that everyone should LOVE plants!

- *Oxygen Production*- did you know that a mature, leafy tree produces as much oxygen in a season that 10 people inhale in a year?¹
- *Wildlife Habitat* - let's face it, critters live in plants! Without trees, shrubs, grass, and flowers insects and animals would struggle to survive.

- *Noise Reduction*- Trees and plants absorb sound. They can help dilute unwanted urban sounds around your home.

- *Erosion Control*- Wind and water can make soil disappear, roots help make sure the dirt stays where it is supposed to stay!²

- *Temperature Control*- During hot months, trees and plants provide shade that will keep your home cooler. In the cooler months, they also

can create a windbreak that can shelter your home against cold winds.¹

- *Property Value*- With a beautiful landscape curb appeal is easy and can increase your property value by up to 15%.¹

Trees and plants are valuable on many levels. Help make the world a more beautiful place...plant a plant!

¹ <http://forestry.about.com/od/treephysiology/tp/>

² <http://livingwithmyhome.com/diy-do-it-yourself/environmental-Benefits-of-plants-a>