

# Christmas Tree Care for Retailers

We wish to team with you to provide your customer a truly special tree for their home. We will do our part by harvesting close to shipping and storing them in a cold, damp, and shady location. Your role is to keep them fresh! We suggest:

## Summary

- 1) Unload promptly
- 2) Store in a cool, shady place
- 3) Store in upright position
- 4) Cut the bottom string to loosen limbs immediately.
- 5) Make a ½" fresh cut and place in water
- 6) Mist or hose down each night or early morning

The closer a harvested tree remains to its natural state, the longer it will stay hydrated and fresh.

To prolong freshness, reduce drying, and prevent string burned needles & trunk splitting:

- 1) Unload trees promptly off the truck to reduce tree compression.
- 2) Store in a cool, shady location (like the woods where they came from). If not possible, burlap or netting covers will help but avoid solid, plastic sheeting. Fully opened trees, acting as a sun shield, can make a big difference.
- 3) Store trees upright, not in a pile, allowing quicker opening up of the limbs for display.
- 4) Cut the bottom strings on all trees, even those not ready for display, to allow the limbs to relax and open up. This takes pressure off the lower limbs to reduce trunk splitting and tender tip foliage to reduce string burn. The underneath side of the needles are not as sun resistant as the outer side so it is more subject to sun damage.
- 5) Plants like water and so do Christmas Trees. Place in water after making a 1/2 " fresh cut to remove the dried sap and allow water uptake into the tree. No special additives are needed.
- 6) At night or early in the morning, mist or hose down the trees. This acts as a heavy dew which the tree will absorb.

## Frosty Mountain Christmas Trees