# Buy Tree Fresh — Keep It Fresh

HONESDALE (Wayne Co.) — Is that Christmas tree fresh? When shopping for a fresh-cut Christmas tree, check it for freshness first. Grasp a branch between your thumb and forefinger, and pull it toward you. If it is fresh, few needles will fall off. Or, tap the stump on the ground and check for excessive needle loss. For another test of freshness, bend a needle between your fingers. If it doesn't break, the tree is fresh.

Disinfect the tree stand. Before you set up your Christmas tree, rinse the stand with a diluted bleach solution. A solution of 1 part bleach and 10 parts water will kill any microscopic organisms that could block the tree's water uptake.

Water tree daily. A seven-foot Christmas tree will drink up to a gallon of water a day. To keep it fresh-looking, add water to the tree stand daily as needed.

Make a fresh cut for fresh start. A critical first step in setting up your Christmas tree is a fresh cut across the tree's butt. Cut off about a half inch, and immediately put the tree in a tree stand that

holds at least two quarts of water Check the water level often, and never let the tree stand go dry. Instead of using plain water, you can mix a solution which may help keep your tree fresh longer. Use 1 gallon warm water, 4 tablespoons plant food, 4 teaspoons household bleach, and 2 cups light corn syrup. Replenish supply in tree stand as needed.

Perfect for Christmas Gift Giving

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LANDIS VALLEY (Lancaster Co.) — Christmas at Landis Valley Museum on Dec. 17 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. will include car-Moravian Trombone Choir will lead the caroling. Cider and cookies will be served afterwards. Admission is free to three decorated buildings on the ground.

Carol Around The

Donations of dry and packaged food for the Lancaster County Food Bank are welcome.

## oling around a giant bonfire. The Turkey Talk-Line

The Butterball® Talk-Line is a toll-free hotline offering English and Spanish-speaking assistance to callers with turkey-related questions, from how much to buy to food safety tips. Consumers who call will be offered a free informative recipe pamphlet. The hotline is open now through Dec. 22, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Turkey Talk-Line number is 1-800-323-4848. For hearing impaired, the number is 1-800-TDD-3848.

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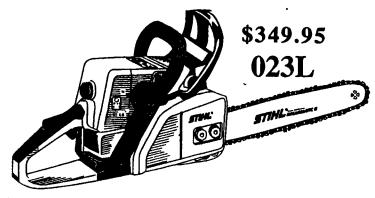
Formerly Handled by Melvin Petersheim 369 Old Dam Rd. Christiana, PA

1 Mile East of Nickel Mine Mon, Dec. 23 - 7am-7pm Tues, Dec. 24 - 7am-4pm



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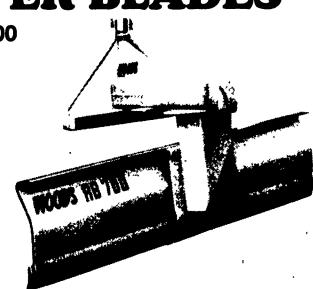
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