



# Real Christmas Trees Do Not Start Fires

## The Facts:

No real Christmas tree has ever started a fire. The risk of fire during the holidays comes from such things as overloaded electrical circuits or placing heat-generating sources too close to other objects. Anything that is dry and flammable – including such things as newspaper, gift-wrap, clothing, paper shopping bags, curtains, and tablecloths – can become a fire hazard if not properly managed.

## What You Need to Know:

A fresh tree is a safe tree. As anyone who has tried to start a campfire with green wood knows, fresh limbs **resist** igniting.

To protect your real Christmas tree from ignition sources, buy it as fresh as possible, add a fresh cut to the trunk and place it in water as soon as possible then water your tree daily.

## To Keep Your Tree From Falling Victim to Fire Sources, Remember the Three Things to Avoid: Heat, Electricity, and Flame:

- Keep your tree away from major sources of heat, such as space heaters, appliances, hot plates, electric blankets, computers or TVs.
- Don't overload your electrical circuits or extension cords.
- Turn off your tree lights overnight and anytime you leave the house.
- Dispose of light sets that have visible wear and tear; use only UL-approved lights and according to their instructions.
- Don't use candles or other open flames in, on, or around your tree.
- Don't allow smoking anywhere near the tree..