



Virginia Green Industry Council

For Immediate Use

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TOP TEN TANNENBAUM TIPS

(For Cut Trees)

Buying a cut evergreen tree for the holidays that will remain fresh and beautiful in your home requires following just a few simple tips, according to Lin Diacont, President of the Virginia Green Industry Council. Diacont suggests the following ten tips:

1. Know your trees. Some support heavy ornaments better than others.
2. Pick up the tree. It should be fairly heavy. Most of a fresh tree's weight is water.
3. Thump tree trunk on the ground. The green needles should stay on the tree.
4. Tug the green needles. They should not come off in your hand.
5. Buy a tree from a vendor that is sheltering the tree from wind and sun and placing the trees on grass rather than asphalt. Unsheltered trees dry out.
6. Ask the vendor when the tree was cut. The more recent the cutting, the fresher the tree.
7. Ask where the tree was cut. Less travel time means a fresher tree.
8. Cut ¼" to ½" off the bottom of the trunk to remove any wood that has become sealed.
9. Put tree in water within one hour of making the cut. Check daily to see that the tree has enough water.
10. Shop for the best deal. Many rural tree farms are less expensive than those in the cities because they have less overhead (rent, taxes, fees, shipping).

The Virginia Green Industry Council is the voice of the horticulture industry in the Commonwealth and is dedicated to enhancing the beauty of the state's environment, the well-being of our citizens, improving our state's economy, and improving the health and wellness for everyone in Virginia. The Council is made up of providers of horticultural products and services. The Council works to provide public and industry education, environmental guidelines and other information that will keep Virginia green and growing. For more information: www.viriniagreen.org. E-mail: info@viriniagreen.org 540-382-0943 FAX: 540-382-2716