



METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

Karl F. Dean
Mayor

Billy Lynch
Director

METRO PUBLIC WORKS
750 SOUTH 5TH STREET
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37206

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Contact: Gwen Hopkins-Glascock
(615) 880-2439 office
(615) 566-7525 cell
gwen.hopkins@nashville.gov

Metro Nashville
PUBLIC WORKS

CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT BY RECYCLING LIVE TREES

Metro to provide multiple sites for convenient drop-off service

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Davidson County residents can recycle their live Christmas trees at one of 10 Metro sites again this holiday season. Metro Public Works will collect them for mulching at the city's Bordeaux Mulch Facility.

All trees must be free of lights, ornaments, icicles, all tinsel and garland. No flocked trees can be accepted.

WHO: Metro Parks & Recreation and Metro Public Works departments

WHAT: Christmas Tree Drop-off Program

WHEN: December 28, 2009 to February 16, 2010

WHERE: Any one of the following Metro Parks:

Cane Ridge, Cedar Hill, Edwin Warner, Elmington, Joelton, Richland,
Sevier, Two Rivers and Whitfield; or
Una Recreation Center, 136 Una Recreation Road

Recycling Christmas trees into mulch, rather than dumping them in the trash, in an alley or other seemingly deserted area, keeps them out of landfills and helps save Metro the cost of disposal fees, Public Works Director Billy Lynch said.

Between 12,000 and 15,000 Christmas trees are recycled each year at Metro sites.

Residents can also take their live trees to the Bordeaux facility, which is open Monday-Saturday from 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. For more information, call 862-8750 or visit www.nashville.gov/Recycle .

Two (2) Attachments: List of 10 drop-off sites with addresses
Facts and more tips for Christmas tree recycling

Metro's 2009 Christmas Tree Drop-Off Locations

Metro Park Locations:

Cane Ridge, 419 Battle Road

Cedar Hill, 860 Old Hickory Blvd.

Edwin Warner, 50 Vaughn Road

Elmington, 3531 West End Ave.

Joelton Community Park, 21 Joelton Community Center Road

Richland, 4601 Charlotte Pike

Sevier, corner of Clayton Ave and Granny White Pike, near picnic shelters

Two Rivers, 3150 McGavock Pike

Whitfield, Edmondson Pike @ Brewer Drive

Additional location:

Una Recreation Center, 136 Una Recreation Road

LIVE CHRISTMAS TREES: GIFTS THAT KEEP ON GIVING

Though your Christmas tree may have more needles on the floor than on the branches, it still can add life to your shrubs and plants. Christmas tree compost and mulch is very popular among resident gardeners and landscapers.

- ✓ The mulch, being slightly acidic, is beneficial to acid-loving plants such as evergreens and rhododendrons.
- ✓ Adding compost to home gardens improves soil quality, stores moisture and reduces weeds.
- ✓ In some instances, it can also be used for erosion control.
- ✓ Make your own mulch by chopping and shredding up your tree. The mulch will be “green” and will need to stay in a compost pile for several months to dry out.
- ✓ Chop or grind smaller branches for wood chips to use in flower and shrub beds.
- ✓ Roughly one in every three households purchase a fresh cut Christmas tree, resulting in a large amount of tree waste to be managed after the holiday season.
- ✓ Between 16-20 trees, when chipped, will produce a cubic yard of chips/mulch initially until it decomposes. Or roughly one tree equals one trash bag of chips.
- ✓ Each year, Public Works crews remove more than 500 trees per day from Metro Christmas tree recycling sites.
- ✓ The approximately 12,000 to 15,000 trees recycled through Metro every year totals nearly 300 tons of recyclable material.
- ✓ In Davidson County, the second week of January is when most of the Christmas trees are recycled at Metro sites.

If you'd rather not mulch, you can still place your tree outdoors or in a brush pile where branches can become a winter habitat for birds and other small wildlife.

Before disposing of a live-cut Christmas tree, remember to:

- **Remove all trimmings** such as tinsel, ornaments, lights and garlands.
- **Seek permission** before discarding trees on public or private land. Discarding trees without permission could result in a litter violation.

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