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UNL Extension Forester Offers Tips for Selecting a Live Christmas Tree

(KTNC) - Many people will be searching for a Christmas tree in the coming days and weeks. A forester at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln says the state's supply of locally grown trees should not be affected by this year's drought.

Dennis Adams of the Nebraska Forest Service says that an estimated 25,000 Nebraska-grown trees will be available this year, from more than 25 Christmas tree farms across the state.

Once you have selected a Christmas tree for your home, Adams says there some easy steps to follow to keep the tree fresh. (play audio :21 "daily if needed.")

The trees can be used, even after the holidays. Adams has some suggestions on how to recycle your tree. (play audio :26 "pond or lake.")

Many towns provide recycling sites for old Christmas trees, where the trees are ground for mulch.

Adams says buying pre-cut trees from Nebraska is a better option than purchasing one shipped from western and northern states because they will stay fresh longer.

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