



Real versus Fake Christmas Trees

- ✓ Real Christmas trees benefit the environment from the time they are planted until after the holiday season when they can be recycled.
- ✓ Real Christmas trees provide oxygen to the atmosphere. One acre of Christmas trees produces the daily oxygen requirement for 18 people.
- ✓ Real Christmas trees are biodegradable, and the trunk and branches can be used as mulch for gardens, parks, or in animal stalls.
- ✓ Some communities use real Christmas trees to make effective sand and soil erosion barriers, especially at beaches and on river beds. Sunk into private fish ponds, real trees make excellent refuge and feeding areas for fish.
- ✓ Before recycling, real Christmas trees can be used to make bird feeders, adding color and excitement to the winter garden. Utilize orange slices, suet, and seed to attract the birds. They will come for the food and stay for the shelter in the tree's branches.
- ⊗ Artificial trees are a petroleum-based product that contains high levels of lead and consume vast resources during fabrication.
- ⊗ Artificial trees are a burden to the environment – they aren't biodegradable and will remain in landfills for centuries after disposal.
- ⊗ Contrary to the belief that artificial trees can be used each Christmas, the average life span of an artificial tree is only six years.

Real Christmas Trees Make Scents!