



# UCCE Master Gardener's of Glenn County Newsgram

December 2020

## Christmas Trees

Many people choose a real Christmas tree over an artificial one. A tree can be cut from a tree farm like the one in the photo or on the local National Forests. To cut on a national Forest you will need to purchase a permit. The permit comes with a map identifying the areas open for tree cutting. One advantage of cutting a tree yourself is you know it is fresh. If you buy a tree from a retail outlet, check to see if the tree is fresh by grabbing a branch and run your fingers along the branch to the end. If the tree is fresh needles will not come off.

Where ever you get the tree here are a few tips from Michigan State Cooperative Extension on keeping the tree green while it is in the house.

**Fresh Cut**—Cut 1 inch off the base of the tree just before putting it in a stand. This will increase the water uptake by the tree.

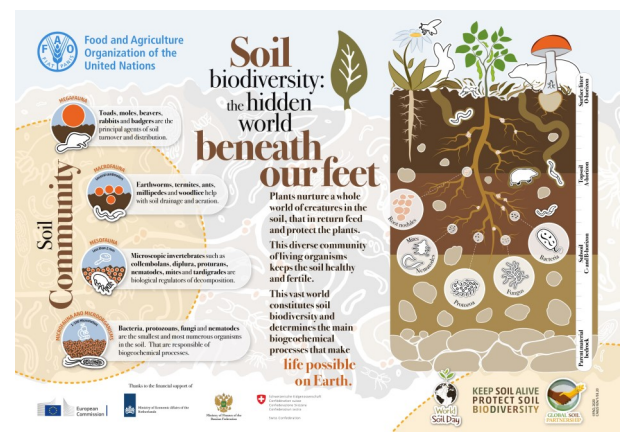
**Fresh Water**—Trees need a lot of water, particularly during the first week in the house. Check the water level every day. Don't let the water fall below the level of the truck bottom. Additives to tree water are not necessary, do not help and in some cases cause needle loss in the tree. Some of the common additives people use are sugar, aspirin, bleach and 7 Up. Bleach and aspirin can cause heavy needle loss on a tree.



UC Statewide IPM Project  
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## Healthy Soils Week

November 30 to December 5 is healthy soils week. The event is sponsored by the CA Dept of Food and Agriculture and many partners including UCANR and CA Master Gardeners. The UC Master Gardener Program will celebrate healthy soils week by hosting a free LIVE talk on *Tips to Keep your Garden Soil Healthy*. No registration is required. The discussion will be live-streamed to [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) on Thursday, Dec. 3 at 10 am. The event will be reordered for alter viewing. The session will qualify for Continuing Education hours,



**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**  
Agriculture and Natural Resources

**UC Master Gardener Program**



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### Master Gardener Business

#### Monthly Meeting

Our next meeting will be on December 2 at 1:00. The meeting will be in the Demo Garden. Bring a chair and join us under the trees.

#### Winter Community Market in Willows

Master Gardeners Bob and Don have volunteered to represent us at the winter community market, the new name of the craft fair. The market will be outside in the parking lot of St. Monica's Church in Willows from 10-2 on Saturday December 5.

#### UCCE Office Status

The office is closed to the public but the public can contact the offices by phone or email.

#### Statewide Conference

Save-the-Date:

UC Master Gardener Conference

Oct. 2 - Oct 6, 2023

### Gardening in Space

The SpaceX Falcon Rocket that launched on November 15 brought with it an experiment to grow radishes on the International Space Station. Radishes were chosen because they have a short cultivation time, and are nutritious and edible. This research will help with developing the capability of food production in space. NASA has a goal of sustaining crews on long-duration space exploration missions. These missions require astronauts to maintain nutritionally valuable food crops that can be grown in an artificial environment. NASA is looking to understand the physiology of plants, which may improve the efficiency and productivity of plant cultivation on Earth, as well as nutritional value of crops.

More information can be found on the [spacecenter.org](https://spacecenter.org) Blog.

