



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

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FIRE CHIEF

4410 Cathedral Oaks Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93110

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

- Proper Christmas Tree Disposal -

SANTA BARBARA, Ca. December 30, 2013 – After the holidays, don't throw your natural tree away! The Santa Barbara County Fire Department offers the following tips on what to do with your tree after the holidays:

- Remove all ornaments, tinsel, lights, and other non-organic decorative materials. This includes tree stands.
- Trees are often required to be cut into 4 foot lengths; so you may need to cut your tree in half. In some areas, the trees must be cut small enough pieces to fit inside your green (yard waste) container.
- Flocked trees will often need to be chopped-up and disposed with regular solid waste. Each area has different requirements, so be sure to check with your hauler's website.
- Trees are usually collected curbside for two weeks after Christmas. FREE drop-off locations are also commonly available.
- If you miss the collection period, you can cut-up the tree and place it in your green (yard waste) container for pick-up on the regularly scheduled service day; assuming your area has a yard waste collection program to which you subscribe.
- **Never put tree branches or needles in a fireplace or wood burning stove.** When the tree becomes dry, discard it promptly.

The Santa Barbara County Fire Department reminds you to dispose of your Christmas tree properly. If you purchase a cut tree, make sure you recycle it.

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