

Christmas Tree Guidance

Technical Services Unit, Alabama Department of Public Health

2012 NFPA 1, FIRE CODE, Section 10.14 COMBUSTIBLE VEGETATION, contains these requirements:

1. NATURAL CUT CHRISTMAS TREES ARE NOT PERMITTED in nursing homes, hospitals, assisted living facilities, and ambulatory surgical centers.
2. NATURAL LIVE CHRISTMAS TREES IN POTS are permitted in nursing homes, hospitals, congregate assisted living facilities, and ambulatory surgical centers.
3. ARTIFICIAL CHRISTMAS TREES and artificial vegetation shall be labeled or otherwise identified or certified by the manufacturer as being “fire retardant.”
4. Decorations and Christmas trees shall not obstruct corridors, exit ways, or other means of egress.
5. Only listed electrical lights and wiring shall be used on decorations and Christmas trees.
6. Electric lights are prohibited on metal artificial trees.
7. Open flames, such as from candles, shall not be located on or near combustible materials.
8. Natural Christmas Trees shall not be located near fireplaces, heating vents or other heating devices that could cause the tree to be ignited.