



Each year since 1970 (42 years ago) a tree from a National Forest has been selected to stand on the west lawn of our Nation's Capitol Building to celebrate the Christmas season



OUR NATION'S CAPITOL BUILDING IS IN WASHINGTON D.C.



**NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH THE
WHITE HOUSE...**



Where the President Lives...



- This spring and summer, 8-10 trees will be chosen as 'Candidate' Trees.
- The Capitol Architect from D.C. will travel to the White River Valley and make the final selection.
- To harvest the tree, two large cranes are required to ensure that the tree does not break or that the branches do not break off.
- In addition to the big Tree, approximately 70 smaller, 'companion' trees will also be harvested and sent to D.C. to be placed in offices.



Then the tree is carefully placed on a trailer into a specially made 'cradle'. A large rubber 'bladder' will be affixed to the trees trunk and filled with water to ensure that the tree stays green on its trip.





Once wrapped, the Tree will be on its way to bring joy and celebration to towns across Colorado and across the country.



Once the Tree arrives in Washington D.C., a crane carefully lifts it off of the trailer and hoists it over to the west lawn of the Capitol Building. It is then placed into a 5' deep hole of concrete to keep it upright!



SMOKEY WANTS YOU

TO HELP DECORATE THE 2012
CAPITOL CHRISTMAS TREE

ORNAMENT DETAILS

- This is where you come into play. We are asking kids, teachers, and artists from across Colorado to help make these ornaments.
- It is going to take nearly 5,000 ornaments to decorate this large tree.
- Since this tree is so big, the ornaments need to be 9-12” and visible from 25-70’ away!
- They must be able to withstand wet and wintry conditions for a few weeks.

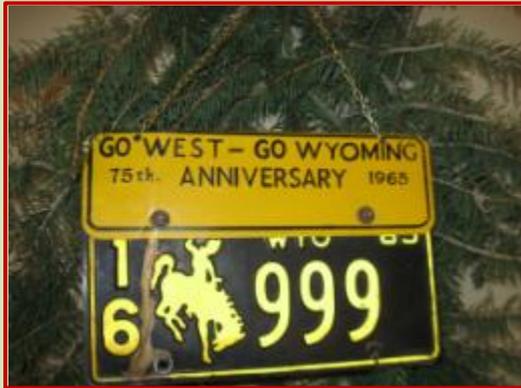
“CELEBRATING OUR GREAT OUTDOORS”

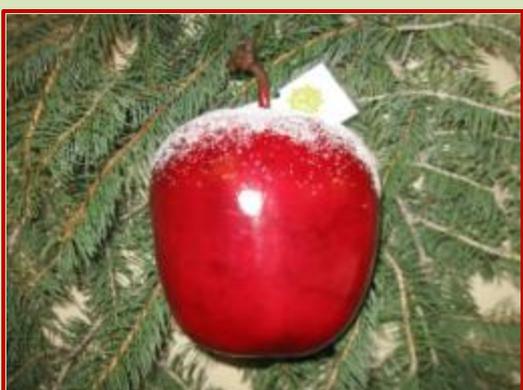
Try to follow our theme – Celebrating Our Great Outdoors – and show the nation what YOU like to do outside!

Here are just a few ideas to help get you started:

Hiking	Bird watching	Rafting
Biking	Wakeboarding	Kayaking
Camping	Boating	Snowboarding
Backpacking	Rock climbing	Skiing
Four wheeling	Geocaching	Horseback Riding
Snowmobiling	Hunting	Jet skiing
Sledding	Fishing	Snow shoeing

**Check out these great examples
of ornaments that were made for the
2010 Wyoming Christmas tree >>>**





Enter a drawing to win a trip to Washington D.C. with your parents to attend the Tree Lighting Ceremony!



This second grader from California won the drawing last year and flipped the switch to light the tree!



- ALL kids from Colorado that make an ornament are eligible to enter a drawing to win a free trip to Washington D.C !! (along with their parents of course).
- The child that wins the drawing gets to 'flip the switch' at the Tree Lighting Ceremony with the Speaker of the House.

- An additional 1,000 indoor ornaments will decorate companion Christmas trees placed throughout federal buildings around the Capitol.
- These ornaments are smaller in size, ranging from 3-7” tall.
- Since these ornaments will be crafted for indoor use, they can be more refined and delicate.
- Many of these ornaments are submitted by arts groups, clubs and service organizations.

So let's get excited and make the best ornaments yet
to show our pride in Colorado!

Ornaments are due in Meeker by **OCTOBER 5th**!

For more information please visit:
www.capitolchristmastree2012.com

Handmade Ornament Drop-Off Sites & Contacts

GRAND MESA, UNCOMPAHGRE, AND GUNNISON NATIONAL FORESTS

Supervisor's Office

2250 Highway 50

Delta, CO 81416

Contact: Lorraine Crespin /Anne Janik
(970) 874-6600

Norwood Ranger District

P.O. Box 388

1150 Forest

Norwood, CO 81423

Contact: Bernice White /Julie Stephens
(970) 327-4261

Ouray Ranger District

2505 S. Townsend

Montrose, CO 81401

Contact: Jane Jones
(970) 240-5300

Gunnison Ranger District

216 N. Colorado

Gunnison, CO 81230

Contact: Sonia Esliit/Roger Haga
(970) 641-0471

Grand Valley Ranger District

2777 Crossroads Blvd, Suite 1

Grand Junction, CO 81506

Contact: Brenda Winfrey
(970) 527-4131

Paonia Ranger District

P.O. Box 1030

North Rio Grande Avenue

Paonia, CO 81428

Contact: Marie Phillips
(970)527-4131

Handmade Ornament Drop-Off Sites & Contacts

WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST

Rifle Ranger District

0094 CR 244

Rifle, CO 81650

Contact: Jason Pooler

(970) 625-2371

Dillon Ranger District

680 Blue River Parkway

Silverthorne, CO 80498

Contact: Shelly Grail

(970) 262-3484

Blanco Ranger District

220 E. Market St.

Meeker, CO 81641

Contact: Mary Cunningham

(970) 878-6015

Eagle/Holy Cross Ranger District

Eagle:

125 West 5th St.

Eagle, CO 81631

Contact: Lynn Espersen

(970) 328-5861

Holy Cross:

24747 US Highway 24

Minturn, CO 81645

Contact: Corey Myers

(970) 827-5156

Supervisor's Office

900 Grand Avenue

Glenwood Springs, CO 81601

Contact: Mari DeWall

(970) 945-3230

Sopris Ranger District

620 Main St.

Carbondale, CO 81623

Contact: Chandra Allred

(970) 963-2266 ext. 3136

Handmade Ornament Drop-Off Sites & Contacts

COLORADO STATE FOREST SERVICE

Colorado State Forest
Service
3843 LaPorte Ave.
Fort Collins, CO 80523-
5060
Contact: Lisa Mason
(970) 491-4920

Handmade Ornament Drop-Off Sites & Contacts

PIKE AND ISABEL NATIONAL FORESTS AND COMANCHE GRASSLAND

Pueblo Supervisor's Office

2840 Kachina Drive

Pueblo, CO 81008

Contact: Lauri Trujillo

(719) 553-1400

San Carlos Ranger District

3028 East Main St.

Canon City, CO 81212

Contact: Bea Deakins

(719) 269-8585

Pikes Peak Ranger District

601 South Weber

Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Contact: Valerie Fansler

(719) 636-1602

Leadville Ranger District

810 Front St.

Leadville, CO 80461

Contact: Natalie Armstrong

(719) 486-7405

South Platte Ranger District

19316 Goddard Ranch Court

Morrison, CO 80465

Contact: Lynn Kurtz

(303) 275-5610

Comanche National

Grassland District

Carrizo Unit

P.O. Box 127

27204 Highway 287

Springfield, CO 81073

Contact: Kim Shiplett

(719) 523-3500

Contact: Colleen Oquist (La Junta)

(719) 384-2181

Salida Ranger District

325 West Rainbow Blvd.

Salida, CO 81201

Contact: Ann Ewing

(719) 539-3591

South Park Ranger District

P.O. Box 219

320 Highway 285

Fairplay, CO 80440

Contact: Maggie Cortez

(719) 836-2031

Handmade Ornament Drop-Off Sites & Contacts

RIO GRANDE NATIONAL FOREST

SLV Public Lands Center
1803 W. Highway 160
Monte Vista, CO 81144
Contact: Jacquie Smith/Mike Blakeman
(719) 852-6212

Divide Ranger District
Del Norte:
13308 W. Highway 160
Del Norte, CO 81132
Contact: Ronnie Day
(719) 657-3321

Creede:
304 South Main St.
Creede, CO 81130
Contact: Dennis Vincent
(719) 658-2556

Conejos Peak Ranger District
15571 County Road T5
La Jara, CO 81140
Contact: Sam Suazo
(719) 274-8971

Saguache Ranger District
46525 State Highway 114
Saguache, CO 81149
Contact: Carita Ginn
(719) 655-2547



2012 Capitol Christmas Tree Ornament Campaign Coordinator

**Mary Cunningham
Blanco Ranger District**

220 E. Market St.

Meeker, CO 81641

Phone: (970) 878-6015

E-mail: mlcunningham@fs.fed.us

www.capitolchristmastree2012.com

ANOTHER GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR ARTISTS!

***Plein Air Paint-Out and Celebration
for the 2012 Capitol Christmas Tree***

August 18th, 2012 / Aspen, Colorado

Log onto these websites for more information:

<http://www.capitolchristmastree2012.com/paint-for-the-tree.html>

http://www.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=1075

**Information and photos provided by
Mary Cunningham, Ornament Campaign Coordinator**