



## **LAEL'S MOON GARDEN**

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### **Easy Care of Your Live Christmas Tree**

Your live Christmas tree is an environmentally friendly and economical choice. It is an outdoor plant, and it can remain fresh, green, and fragrant in your home during the holidays with just a few easy-care steps.

#### **Care of the Tree Indoors:**

1. Decorate your live tree in the same way as a cut tree; avoid spraying flock on the needles.
2. Locate the tree in your home away from sources of heat and turn off tree lights when you are not around to enjoy them. Keeping the room cool as much as possible also helps.
3. Water the tree every third day by placing ice cubes next to the trunk. About one tray of ice cubes at a time is enough. The slowly melting water will be absorbed by the root ball. You should put plastic under the pot to protect your floors.
4. We recommend that the tree be inside your home for no longer than two weeks. Move your tree outdoors immediately after the holidays.

**Planting Your Tree:** Your live Christmas tree will become a large and beautiful landscape specimen after planting. Follow these easy steps for planting..

1. Pull the tree from the pot by laying it on its side. The root ball is wrapped in burlap and tied with twine to make it easier to handle.
2. Plant the tree so the ground level is even with the top of the root ball. Do not plant it deeper.
3. Once the tree is in the hole at the appropriate depth, cut the twine around the trunk and unwrap the burlap around the trunk. This will allow the trunk to grow without girdling. It is not necessary to remove the rest of the burlap—roots will grow right through it.
4. After filling and firming in the soil around the roots, make a circular dam around the tree from the excess soil. Flood the area inside the dam with water. This will help to wash the soil in around the root ball and remove any air pockets.
5. Begin watering your tree when the dry weather returns. Water your newly planted tree deeply once a week until it is established usually the first summer or two.
6. Return the pot to Lael's Moon Garden in good condition to be reused. That way, enjoying your live tree will have generated no waste—unlike a cut tree.



**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**