



# Back Door Reading From your Health Ministries

## Christmas Tree Basics



In a typical year, there are 400 residential fires, caused by Christmas trees, which result in 40 deaths, and 100 injuries. Artificial trees are safer, but be sure to check for a UL label and any loose or bare wires.



For a live tree, freshness is important. If possible, go to a tree farm and cut your own. Before placing a live tree in water, cut 2" off the trunk immediately before submerging it.



In the seventh century, an English monk working in Germany used the triangular shape of the fir tree as a symbol of the Trinity.

People of many pre-Christian traditions hung evergreens in their homes around the time of the winter solstice as a symbol of life.



*Wire or tie tree to prevent falling!*



The first record of a decorated Christmas tree is in 1510 in Latvia. Around this time Martin Luther is said to have hung candles on his tree to show his children the delight of a starry sky.



*No more than three strings of lights in a chain*

The German Hanoverian monarchs brought the Christmas tree to England, but these trees did not become generally popular until Victoria and Albert were shown with their children around one.



*No real candles near tree  
Sorry, Martin*

Your tree stand should hold at least a gallon of water. Check the level daily.



Use small cool lights that are intended for indoor use. Replace any frayed or worn cords. Unplug lights before going out or sleeping.

