



# USAG – Fort Stewart Safety Gram

*Sustaining, Supporting, and Defending Safety Excellence*



SG #13-09

## Tree Safety

11 Dec 12

### Check Live Holiday Decorations For Freshness

The simple method for testing live decorations is to bend the needles or leaves. If they snap, they may not be fresh or could be brittle, they should bend rubbery and bounce back. And be sure to water daily to keep freshness.

### Decorations

Check all decorations for defects and cuts. Follow all manufacturer instruction on the package for installation. We recommend using insulated staples to help preventing damaging the insulation. And remember to remove all exterior decorations after the holidays; most are not made to be exposed to the weather for long periods of time.

### Extension cords

Extension cords are designed for temporary use. Do not use an extension cord for permanent wiring. Of course during the holiday season's extension cords are needed. Be sure to inspect the cords for nicks, cuts. If the extension cord does have cuts or nicks **DO NOT USE THEM!** Extension cords are cheaper than a new house. Do not over load extension cords.

### Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters

All out door receptacles are required to be on ground fault circuit interrupters, same with kitchen counter top receptacles and bathroom receptacles.

**Trees are thirsty!** Trees may drink between 2 pints and a gallon of water per day - so make sure to check daily and supply fresh water as needed.

### Lighting The Tree

Use lights that have the label of an independent testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use. Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections.



### **FACTS**

- One of every three home Christmas tree fires are caused by electrical problems.
- Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they have a higher chance to be deadly.
- A heat source too close to the tree causes one in every five of the fires.

**Manage The Risk – Protect The Force**  
**For additional information contact:**

**Your Unit Addition Duty Safety Officer (ADSO) or Collateral Duty Safety Person (CDSP), or  
USAG Installation Safety Office: Fort Stewart Office @ 912-767-7880; Hunter Army Airfield Office @ 912-315-4901.**