

How Winter Green Is Your Christmas Tree?

- Consider buying an organically grown tree from tree farmers that do not use pesticides and herbicides in the growing process.
- Have you ever used a “U-pick” tree farm where you are invited to pick and chop your own tree and haul it out? Now that’s a workout!
- Consider purchasing a tree that does not have to be cut down. Try purchasing or potting a tree that may be planted after the Christmas season is over. Wouldn’t that make a great hedge after a few years!
- Give yourself a workout by chopping the limbs off your discarded tree and use the boughs for a layer of protection over a perennial garden.
- Participate in a community tree mulching program. Collect discarded trees in the community and rather

than throwing them in the landfill, chip them for mulch in gardens within the community. Letting the chips decompose in a central location until the spring or summer, reduces the amount of nitrogen that is drawn from garden soil when fresh wood chips are applied directly on gardens and left to decompose there.

- In areas where there are sand dunes, collect Christmas trees to repair the “holes” in dunes where human activity has caused erosion and deterioration. Christmas trees make an ideal frame for sand to collect, effectively mending the gaps where the dune was destroyed and a barrier to prevent further destruction.

- Do you have more ideas? Send them to info@goforgreen.ca

