



Wisconsin Christmas Tree Producers Association

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Interesting Facts About Wisconsin Christmas Trees

Up to date thru April 2022

- Over 785,000 Christmas trees were sold in 2019⁽¹⁾
- \$23.3 million of Christmas tree sales ⁽¹⁾
- 182 Farms with 10,000 Acres of Christmas trees in production in Wisconsin ⁽¹⁾
- 374 Licensed Christmas tree growers in Wisconsin (Dept. of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection Christmas tree license list, 2022 & 2023), that grew trees in 714 fields
- Principal trees grown in Wisconsin: Balsam Fir, Fraser Fir, Canaan Fir, Scotch Pine, White Pine and Spruce
- White House Christmas Tree for the Blue Room came from Wisconsin in 2017, 2016, 2011, 2003, 1998, 1988, 1976, 1970, 1966.
- Rank 4th in Sales of Christmas Trees in the U.S. ⁽¹⁾
- Rank 5th in Number of Trees Cut ⁽²⁾
- Rank 5th in Acres in Production ⁽²⁾
- Rank 4th in Number of Farms in Production ⁽²⁾
- Size of farms ⁽²⁾: 424 have less than 10 acres, 186 have 10-19 acres, 154 have 20-49 acres, 95 have 50 or more acres
- Over 600,000 wreaths made each year in Wisconsin (estimated)

Christmas trees are grown as a crop for you, just like pumpkins and flowers, with the intention to cut them. They are grown in rows with five to six foot spacing between the trees and rows.

Christmas tree farming is sustainable – 1 to 3 trees are planted for every one that is cut. Trees are locally grown, providing jobs each and every year of growth (planting, digging, re-planting in places where the tree may had died, shearing, picking cones, mowing, harvesting, delivery, sales, machine maintenance, wreath making, office personnel).

Tree farms provide green space and habitat for wildlife. These farms are maintained in an early succession forest with young trees and plenty of ground covers. This provides habitat for large animals such as deer and bear, cover for ground birds such as turkey and quail, grasses for rodents to hide in which in turn become prey to hawks, foxes, and bobcats. Flowering plants provide nourishment to butterflies, bees and all manner of insects.

Real trees are good for us – they utilize carbon dioxide, produce oxygen that we breathe, and are recyclable through decomposition.

Celebrating the holiday season with a real Christmas tree is a long-standing tradition with many families. In 1856, Franklin Pierce, our 14th President, brought the first Christmas Tree into the White House.

Information is taken from the (1) 2019 USDA Census of Agriculture. (2)2017 USDA Census of Agriculture