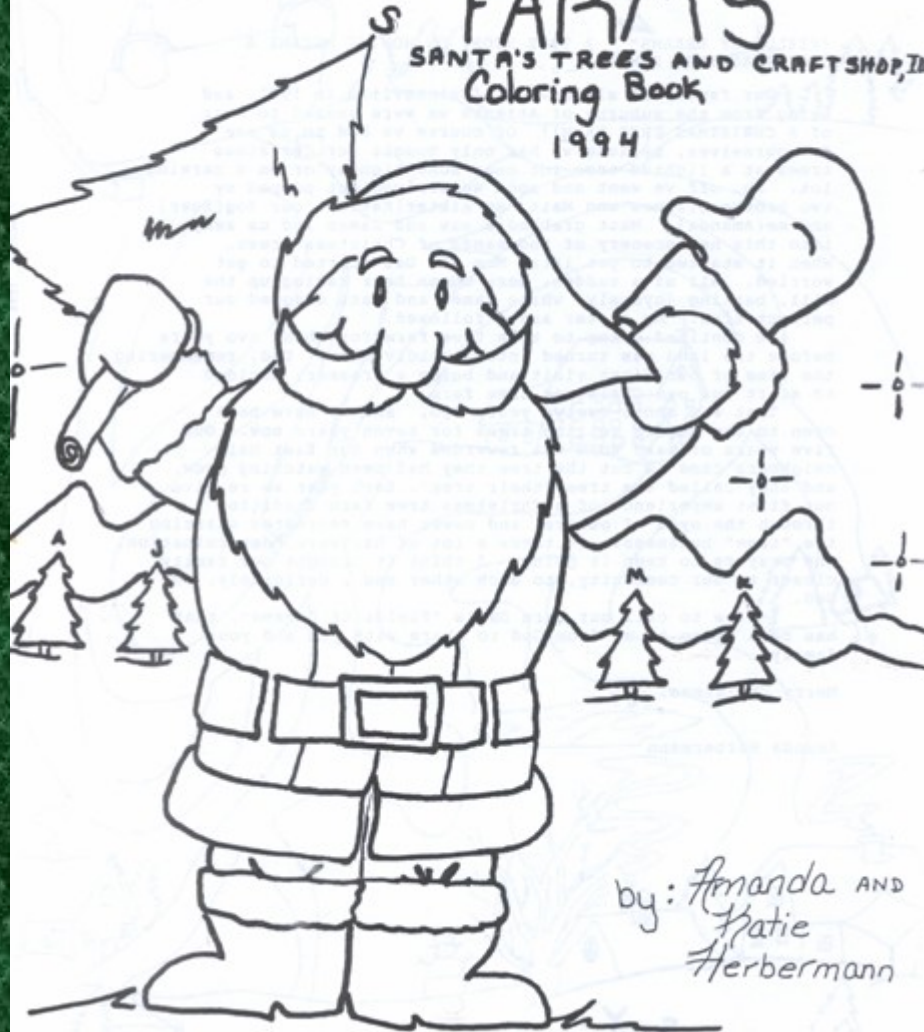


# DECEMBER FARM'S

SANTA'S TREES AND CRAFTSHOP,™  
Coloring Book  
1994



by: Amanda AND  
Patie  
Herbermann

"FIELDS OF DREAMS" - A TRUE STORY ON HOW WE BECAME A  
CHRISTMAS TREE FAMILY

Our family of six moved to Gainesville in 1981, and being from the suburbs of Atlanta we were amazed to hear of a CHRISTMAS TREE FARM!! Of course we had to go see for ourselves, because we had only bought our Christmas trees at a lighted tree lot near some highway or on a parking lot. So, off we went and soon we arrived-out popped my two brothers(James and Matt, my sister(Katie), our dog(Bear) and me(Amanda). Matt grabbed a saw and James led us away into this new scenery of thousands of Christmas trees. When it started to get late, Mom and Dad started to get worried. All of a sudden, here comes Bear racing up the hill, barking joyously, while James and Matt dragged our perfect tree. My sister and I followed.

We contined going to this tree farm for about two years before the land was turned into a subdivision. Dad, remembering, the time of our first visit and being a dreamer, decided to start our own Christmas tree farm.

That was about twelve years ago, and we have been open to the public selling trees for seven years now. Our five years of hard work was rewarded when our East Hall neighbors came to cut the tree they had been watching grow, and they called the tree "their tree". Each year we re-live our first experience of a Christmas tree farm tradition through the eyes of others, and never have regretted starting the "tree" business. It takes a lot of hardwork, determination, and prayers to keep it going. I think it brought our family closer to our community, to each other and , definitely, to God.

I like to call our farm Dad's "Fields of Dreams", that has been given to us from God to share with you and your family.

Merry Christmas,

Amanda Herbermann



# CARING FOR YOUR TREE

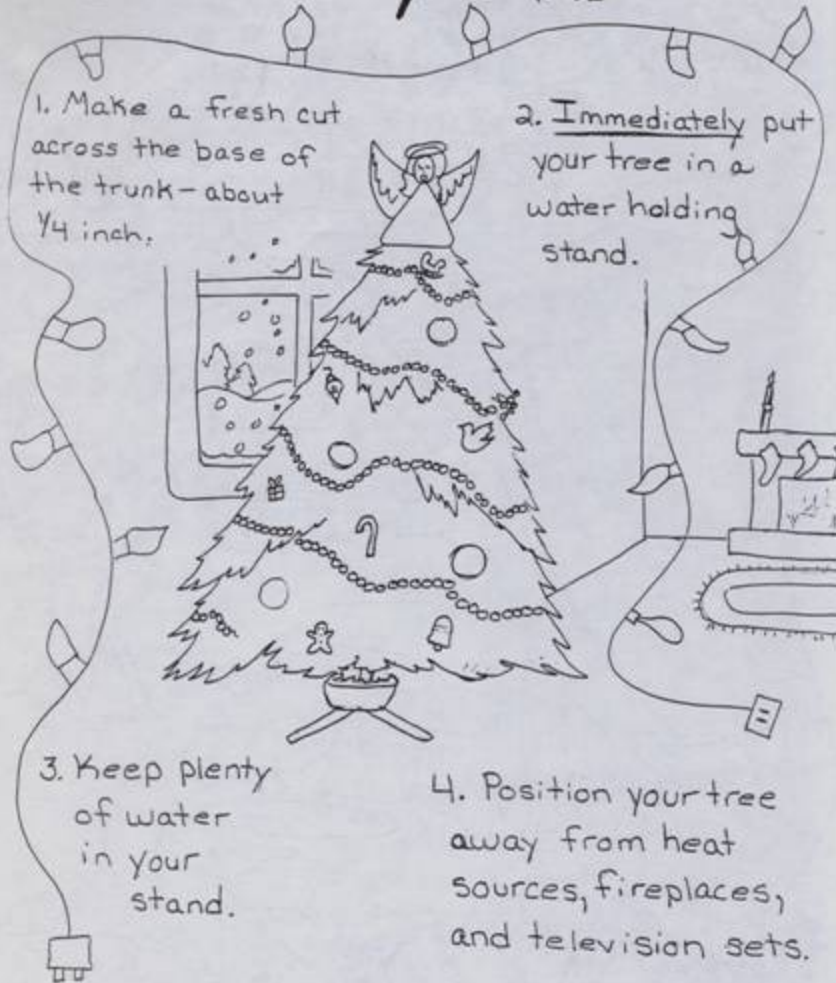
1. Make a fresh cut across the base of the trunk - about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch.

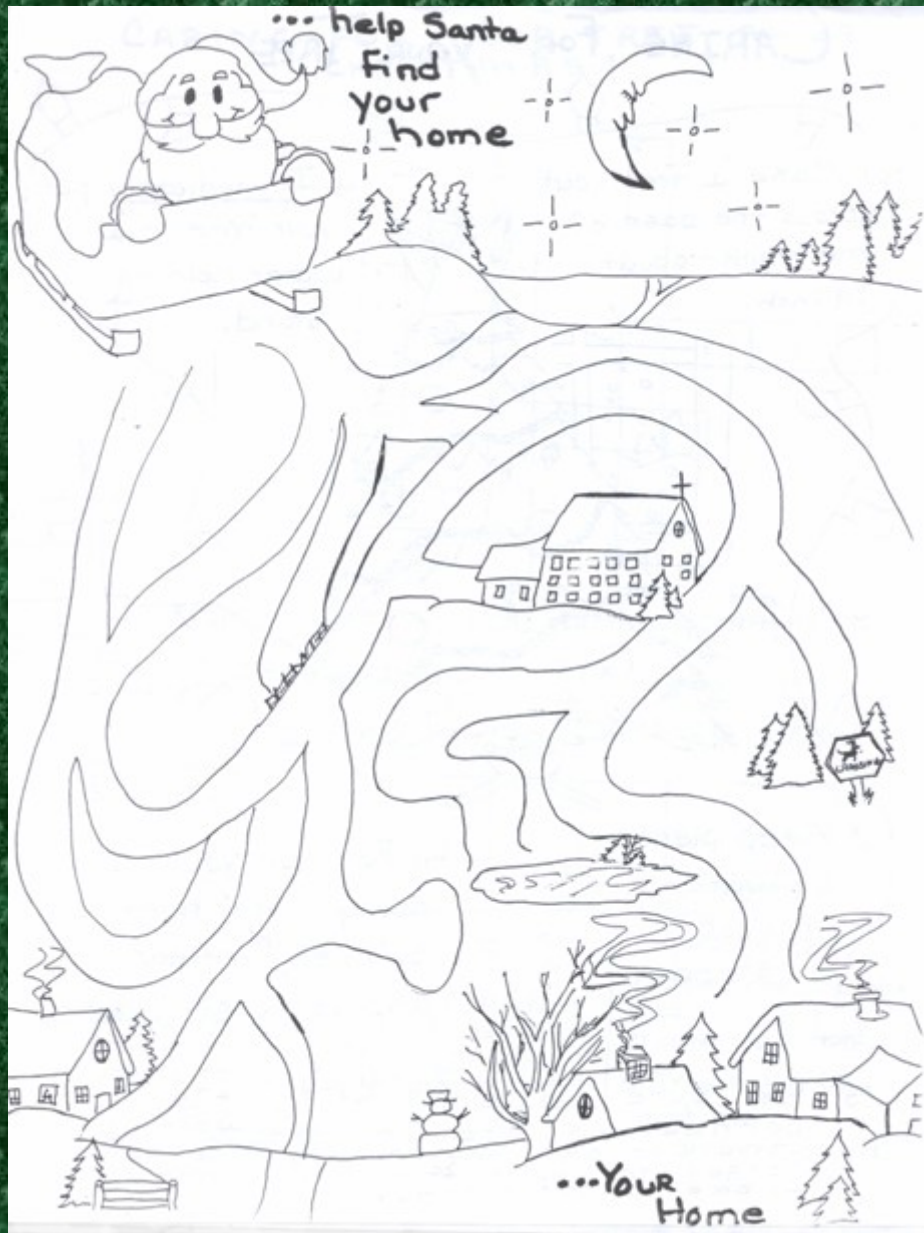
2. Immediately put your tree in a water holding stand.

3. Keep plenty of water in your stand.

4. Position your tree away from heat sources, fireplaces, and television sets.

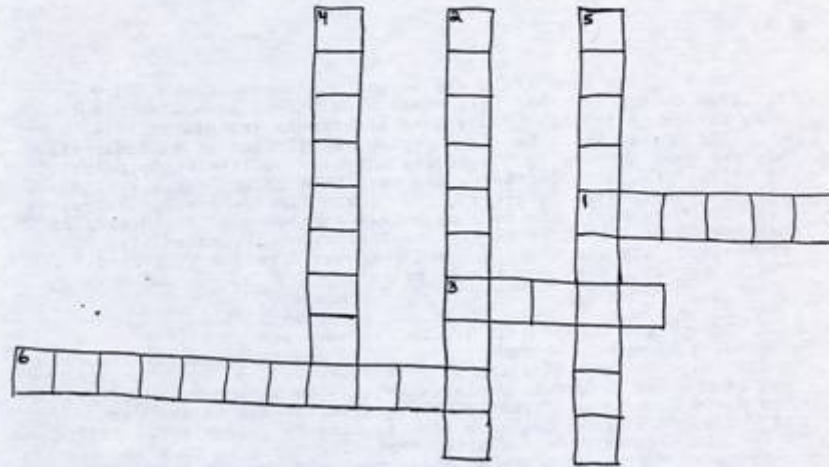
5. Be sure all light cords and connections are in good working condition and not frayed. And don't forget to unplug the lights when you go to bed or leave home!







# CARING FOR YOUR TREE AFTER CHRISTMAS!



Using the words below, complete the crossword puzzle. Then use the letters in the boxes to help you spell:

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## - ACROSS -

1. Use your tree as a bird \_\_\_\_\_, so that birds may sit in the branches for shelter.

3. Shredded branches used for landscaping

6. Large quantity of trees can be used for \_\_\_\_\_ barriers.

hobbyists
soil erosion
Artificial
feeder
mulch
environment

## - DOWN -

2. Everything around you.

4. Use tree branches and trunks to create new items.

5. Trees that can not be decomposed.



## THE LEGEND OF DECEMBER ELF

Once upon a time there was an old man named Joseph Henry. He lived on top of a hill all alone. He hadn't seen anyone for over twenty years. All he had were his dreams and his animals.

One night, while he was sleeping, he dreamed of a little elf. This elf came hopping up his nightstand leaving little footprints. He said, "Hi, I'm December. You have been chosen for a special project and it will bring you great joy," then the elf disappeared. When Joseph awoke in the morning he was puzzled over his dream; it had seemed so real. Then he saw the little footprints on his nightstand, and where the elf had been was a letter. It read: "Hurry up! We'll meet you in the barn."

Sincerely,  
December Elf

Joseph ran to the barn and he saw hundreds of little elves including December. December came up to Joseph and said, "since Santa couldn't come himself, he sent me to do the job. The big man JESUS, has him on a special mission. We have come to help you build a Christmas Tree Farm. We will do most of the work if you agree to help out from time to time." Joseph Henry replied "yes" although he didn't realize what a tree had to do with Christmas. He asked December about that and the elf said, "The star the family puts on top of the tree represents the star the three wise men followed to Jesus." Joseph Henry thought that this was a great idea. "But where will you stay," he ASKED the elf. December said "I will live in the big tree in your front yard and my friends will live in the other trees," with that he left.

The next week the elves, and Joseph Henry, all started planting the baby trees. Over the years when the trees got bigger they trimmed them. After the first five years were up Joseph Henry thought the farm needed a name. Since December did most of the work, and Jesus was also born at this time, he named it December Farm.

When Thanksgiving came, people started to arrive and buy trees. Joseph was delighted, and lived happily ever after.

There is a legend about this Christmas Tree Farm that is still here today. Children have claimed that they've seen elves in the Christmas tree fields, and even in the trees they bring home. So if you ever go to this farm, keep your eyes open for you might see one yourself!

by *Katie Herbermann*  
Katie Herbermann

## CHRISTMAS TREE FARMING: A LABOR OF LOVE

A Seedling takes root.... Most Christmas trees begin life in a nursery where superior seed is planted and grown to two-year-old seedlings. On December Farm 4000 seedlings are planted every year. So that every year there will be 4000 trees 5 years old ready for you and your family to walk through and choose your perfect tree.

Christmas tree farms have environmental benefits... They replenish the environment's oxygen supply, serve as wildlife habitat, increase soil stability and provide a valuable and aesthetically pleasing improvement to the land. And if you (our customers) don't cut all the trees in a field, they will be there next year, no waste!

Most importantly choose and cut farms offer a delightful opportunity for people to renew the tradition of going out into the forest, selecting and cutting the family Christmas tree.



Mr. & Mrs. Claus remind us ...

The  
Spirit of  
Christmas  
Is in  
Your  
heart.

