



Gardening Uncovered: Alternative Christmas Trees

By Martha Vaughn

Choosing the perfect Christmas tree is no easy feat. So many colors, sizes and shapes to choose from can leave us checking measurements and trimming until we make it fit. Since Christmas in Florida often involves sand and beach adventures, Christmas trees are often nontraditional too. We offer a variety of trees that will withstand décor and lights that can be planted after the holiday.

Arizona Cypress: This evergreen conifer is native to southwestern North America. A superior choice for Florida landscapes due to its ability to handle less water and love for full sun. Growing at 1-2' per year, the Arizona Cypress is a great alternative Christmas Tree. Once mature, the tree can be 40-50' tall and 15-30' wide. The Arizona Cypress likes acidic, alkaline, loamy, sandy, well-drained soil. Its leaves come in different shades of green such as gray-green and blue-green.

Holly Trees: Holly is a versatile shrub that comes in many varieties and can withstand the heat and sun. Rooted in Celtic culture, holly has been a Christmas staple. Known also as a holy plant, Holly's deep green leaves and bright red berries make it a great canvas to add holiday lights and ornaments to. Holly can also be cut for floral arrangements, and shaped to be worn as crowns or can be made into wreaths.

Leyland Cypress: The hybrid hails from the West Coast redwood trees. Its deep, dark green boughs create a beautiful backdrop that makes ornaments pop. Thriving in warm climates, the Leyland Cypress will do great in well-drained soil as long as you don't overwater.

Cedar Trees: are great alternative to pine for Christmas trees. Their piney aroma, natural pyramid crown and low maintenance makes Cedar Trees ideal Christmas Trees. Their varied green needles lend the perfect backdrop for Christmas Décor.

Anson Nursery has a full supply of alternative Christmas Trees onsite, you can choose the perfect one for your home. After Christmas, we can help you plant it in the perfect spot too!

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

To help keep customers and staff safe and healthy Anson Nursery have hand washing stations, curb side pickup, and delivery and installation services. Open Monday - Friday from 9am - 5pm and on Saturday's from 9am - 4pm, make plans to visit Anson Nursery today. Conveniently located at 5296 West Homosassa Trail, Lecanto, FL 34461. For more information you can call 352-628-4554, visit www.ansonnursery.net, or find us on Facebook. Be sure to watch for next month's Gardening Uncovered article.



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