



MOBILE FIRE - RESCUE DEPARTMENT FIRE CODE ADMINISTRATION

Christmas Trees Prohibited in Certain Buildings

Natural cut trees placed in public buildings within the City Jurisdiction, where permitted by this section, shall have the trunk bottoms cut off at least above the original cut and shall be placed in a support device complying with 2021 International Fire Code (IFC) Section 806.

Natural cut trees shall be prohibited in Group A, E, I, M, R-1, R-2 and R-4 occupancies.

Exceptions:

- Trees located in areas protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with IFC Section 903 shall not be prohibited in Groups A, E, M, R-1 and R-2.
- Trees shall be allowed within dwelling units in R-2 occupancies.

The support device that holds the tree in an upright position shall be of a type that is stable and meets the following criteria:

- The device shall hold the tree securely and be of adequate size to avoid tipping over of the tree.
- The device shall be capable of containing a minimum 2-day supply of water.
- The water level, when full, shall cover the tree stem at least 2 inches. The water level shall be maintained above the fresh cut and checked at least once daily.

The tree shall be removed from the building whenever the needles or leaves fall off readily when a tree branch is shaken or if the needles are brittle and break when bent between the thumb and index finger. The tree shall be checked daily for dryness. The required width of any portion of a means of egress shall not be obstructed by decorative vegetation.

Candles and open flames shall not be used on or near decorative vegetation. Natural cut trees shall be kept a distance from heat vents and any open flame or heat-producing device at least equal to the height of the tree.

The use of unlisted electrical wiring and lighting on natural cut trees and decorative vegetation shall be prohibited.