



OFFICE of INSPECTOR GENERAL
CERTIFICATION BUREAU
Holiday Decorations Notice
Updated: December 5, 2023

The Life Safety Code considers the following items to be highly flammable:

- Christmas Trees
- Holiday wreaths produced from tree branches
- Garland produced from tree branches

The Certification Bureau provides the following guidelines and precautions for the use of trees and decorations in health care facilities:

LIVE TREES:

Live trees inside a healthcare facility are strictly prohibited.

HOLIDAY WREATHS AND GARLAND PRODUCED FROM TREE BRANCHES:

Garland and holiday wreaths produced from branches of trees are strictly prohibited throughout all healthcare facilities.

ARTIFICIAL TREES:

Artificial trees are permitted inside healthcare facilities.

Facilities must follow manufacturer's directions and instructions for use.

Artificial trees with factory wired with lights are acceptable if UL or FM tested.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS:

Exterior lighting circuits must have ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protection.

Interior lighting is permitted, so long as the lighting is UL or FM tested and approved.

HOLIDAY DECORATIONS:

Evergreen boughs for decoration inside a health care facility is prohibited. The exception is floral arrangements with evergreens placed in a water source.

Pen flames and/or candles are prohibited.

If you have any questions regarding safety issues, please contact the Certification Bureau at (406) 444-2099 or email the Bureau at MTSSAD@mt.gov.

NFPA References: NFPA 2012 Edition Sections: 4.6, 18.7.5.6; 19.7.5.6