



Nothing says holiday like a trip to the christmas tree farm

Christmas is just around the corner, which means now is the time to start planning a trip to a local tree farm. As the cool, crisp air draws near, a visit to the farm is the perfect outdoor adventure to generate some holiday spirit and family fun.

Many farms sell Christmas trees between Black Friday and Christmas Eve, with some starting as soon as Nov. 17. Regardless of when you visit, local producers recommend you call for availability before you go.

"You want to find a tree that has a nice shape with one point at the top," Fentress County's Sycamore Springs Farm owner Lyna Pennycuff said. "The best trees have dense needles."

Even though some trees were stressed during last year's winter, there are still plenty of picture-perfect Christmas trees to choose from this season.

If you have never been to a Christmas tree farm, the process is easy and fun. "When customers arrive, they will be given a band saw and a tree sled to cut the perfect Christmas tree from the farm," Pennycuff said.

Don't want to cut down a tree yourself? Many farms offer pre-cut trees. Once you have picked your favorite tree, farmers like the Pennycuffs use their "tree dancer" to shake loose needles. They also bale and help load your tree for a stress-free ride home. Calling ahead to make sure you bring the right tools, including straps to secure your tree, is always recommended.

Even if you aren't looking for a fresh Christmas tree, many tree farms offer other fun activities for the whole family. Whether you're hoping to get a picture with Santa Claus, take a hike through the trails, or stroll through the gift shop, you will make memories that will last a lifetime.

Be sure to visit www.PickTNProducts.org or use the free Pick Tennessee mobile app to find a local Christmas tree farm near you. Follow "PickTNProducts" on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to learn more about local activities, seasonal recipes, and products.



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