

NEWS RELEASE

**USDA Forest Service
Bridger-Teton National Forest
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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501 to 1: New tree planted on Jackson Town Square and 500 free saplings to be given out on Nov. 6

Wyoming Landscape Contractors Greening Program for Maintaining Wyoming's 'Perfect' Tree

Jackson, Wyoming – ‘Green math’ of 501 new trees to 1 tree is smart math, according to the project coordinators for Wyoming’s US Capitol Christmas Tree.

This week in Jackson, a new tree will be planted on the Town Square and 500 free saplings will be given out to the public Saturday as part of the tree celebration.

Nick Orsillo, the owner of Wyoming Landscape Contractors, one of the only locally owned major sponsors of the Capitol Christmas Tree Project, will be gifting the town of Jackson an 8 to 10-foot Blue Spruce to be planted on the Town Square to commemorate the 2010 Capitol Christmas Tree being provided by Wyoming.

“St. Nick will be visiting the town of Jackson a little early this year,” said Mary Cernicek, U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree Coordinator.

The greening efforts will take place Friday, November 5 at 11:00 a.m. on the Town Square. Mayor Mark Barron and Town Council Members have been invited.

“Being a part of the 2010 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree Project has been an honor and privilege for Wyoming Landscape Contractors,” said Orsillo. “As one of the top go-to companies for landscape needs in Jackson Hole, we were thrilled to be asked to maintain the perfect tree and look forward to planting another on the Town Square this week.”

Wyoming Landscape Contractors will be planting a new tree to add to the Town Square, in the spirit of making the cutting of the Capitol Christmas Tree a neutral action. Throughout the winter, the tree on the Town Square will be lit with colored lights among the white lights on the other trees to make it easily identifiable to the public.

Wyoming Landscape Contractors has been responsible for the care and maintenance of the tree selected to be the US Capitol Christmas Tree since August. They have been charged with watering, fertilizing and protecting the Tree from pests. The company has also been preparing the site for removal of the Tree and will be responsible for site rehabilitation following the November 6 cutting.

“Wyoming Landscape Contractors has been an essential partner in caring for and protecting the 2010 Capitol Christmas Tree,” said Cernicek.

“The maintenance of ‘The People’s Tree’ is no small task and we are extremely grateful for the company’s ongoing and generous expertise. With the tree on the Town Square, the 500 free saplings and keeping our perfect Christmas tree healthy and well, we call him St. Nick,” said Cernicek referring to Wyoming Landscape Contractor owner, Nick Orsillo.

In addition, to help celebrate the Capitol Christmas Tree, Wyoming Landscape Contractors will be giving away 500 Blue Spruce Saplings at the November 6th Tree Celebration on the Jackson Town Square. The company will plant the saplings in the spring for anyone who keeps their young tree alive through the winter.

Mayor Mark Barron said, “On behalf of the Jackson Hole Community I am pleased to accept this Blue Spruce from Wyoming Landscape Contractors to commemorate the Capitol Christmas Tree. We are humbled and proud to help send-off a magnificent Engelmann Spruce from the Bridger Teton National Forest to be shared with the rest of the country. I thank Senator Barrasso for a great opportunity to showcase Wyoming and our small corner of this great State. We also recognize the tremendous efforts of the Bridger Teton National Forest and all of their community sponsors.”

ABOUT THE CAPITOL CHRISTMAS TREE PROJECT

The Bridger-Teton National Forest, at the request of Senator John Barrasso, is leading the State of Wyoming in the delivery of the Capitol Christmas Tree for 2010.

The Capitol Christmas Tree will grace the west front lawn of the U.S. Capitol in December 2010. The Architect of the U.S. Capitol has already selected a 67-foot Engelmann spruce from the Bridger-Teton National Forest which will be cut, loaded, covered and prepped for travel in November to Washington, D.C.

In mid-November, the tree will be toured across the state of Wyoming before heading east to the U.S. Capitol. In late November, the tree will be delivered to the U.S. Capitol, where it will be lowered into a 5-foot deep hole, strung with lights, and decorated with thousands of handcrafted ornaments made by Wyoming people from across the State. In December, the Speaker of the House, along with one Wyoming student, will light the tree and showcase Wyoming's historical, cultural and natural beauty.

Through the holiday season, the tree will be lit at dusk, where it will be enjoyed by people from across world. The theme of Wyoming's tree is "Wyoming-Forever West."

For more information on the Capitol Christmas Tree for 2010, please visit www.capitolchristmastree2010.org, contact CapitolChristmasTree2010@gmail.com, or call Mary Cernicek at (307) 739-5564.

Follow the Capitol Christmas Tree on Twitter at: www.twitter.com/BridgerTetonNF
And Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/pages/Capitol-Christmas-Tree-2010/104904166232147>.