

MID-AMERICA CHRISTMAS TREE ASSOCIATION

Fall 2024 NEWSLETTER



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News from the MACT -

The Mid-America Christmas Tree Association (MACT) summer meeting was co-hosted by Ohio Christmas Tree Association and held at Timbuk Farms, Granville, OH. Timbuk Farms was started by the Schmidt family in 1952 and after 53 years in business, in 2004, they retired and turned the farm over to Jim and LaVonda Gibson. The farm spans over 300 acres and offers a fall fest in addition to the Christmas tree farm. Thank you for hosting!

MACT was joined by members from Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio, Kentucky, and other states. We were blessed with beautiful weather during the event.







Thank you to our many vendors and sponsors:

Vendors:

Badger Seedling, Egedal, Fraser Knoll, Helena Agri, Howey Tree Baler, JRM Chemical, Jutek, Kirk International, Northern Pine Nursery, Northwoods Evergreen & Wire, Peterson's Riverview Nursery, Pursell Manufacturing, Santa's Wholesale Supply, Sheerlund Products, Tim Weberding Woodworking, Tree Equipment, Tree Limo, Trees for Troops (Bears)/ Christmas Spirit Foundation, Tree Limo, Weyerhaeuser, Wahmhoff Farms Sponsors: Fraser Knoll - Registration Northern Pines - Registration Kurt Lee Products - Registration Northwoods Evergreen & Wire - Friday Breakfast Reliable Source Seeds & Transplants - Friday Refreshments Friday Reception - Reliable Source & Seeds & Transplants Friday Dinner - Ohio Proud Saturday Refreshments - Pursell Manufacturing

Please support our vendors & advertisers as they continue to support MACT!



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Photos from the Vendor Area



Membership Update

We currently have 74 members. Memberships will renew in July 2025. If you still need to renew your membership, please send your membership for to the MACT, C/O Kathy Woliung, 7621 SR 48, Aurora, IN 47001. If you are unsure if you have paid, please contact Kathy or refer to the MACT website member list, which was recently updated.

Welcome to all of our new members!





<u>SAVE THE DATE</u>

2025 Summer Meeting – We will be joining the Michigan Christmas Tree Association and the National Christmas Tree Association on July 24 – 26, 2025



Evergreen Resort

7880 Mackinaw Trail Cadillac, MI 49601 231-775-9947 The booking code is: 29310

Room rates start at \$150 plus tax per night. This rate would also include breakfast for each registered guest each morning they are here.

The group booking block date ends 6/20/25

Caberfae Peaks

1 Caberfae Ln, Cadillac, MI 49601 231-862-3000 The booking code is: b307380

\$99 per night for a non balcony room\$119 per night for a balcony room\$149 per night for a first floor king room

The group booking block date ends 5/31/25

Days Inn by Wyndham Cadillac

6001 East M-115 Cadillac, MI 49601

Double bed rate: \$155.55 Free full breakfast The group booking block date ends July 9th, 2025

Visit mcta.org for more hotel options and meeting information.





Shield Christmas trees with *powerful protection* from deer.

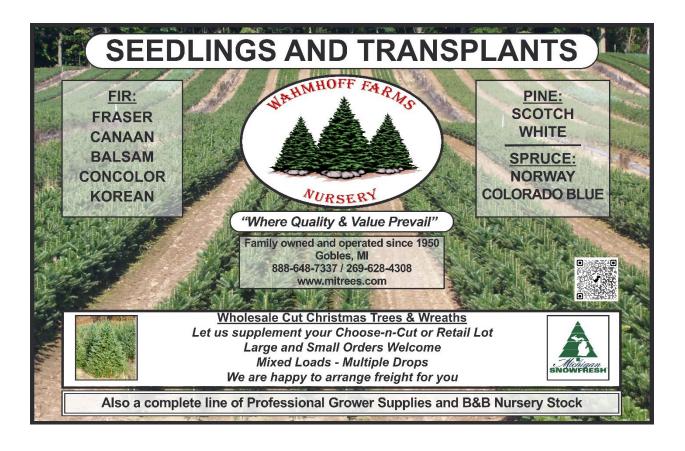
Trico[®] Pro is a natural repellent that protects Christmas trees from deer, elk and moose. With dual-action protection, Trico Pro repels animals by both taste and scent, preventing extensive damage or even tree replacement. Its concentrated liquid formulation is easy to use and long lasting after a single application, with a subtle, non-irritating odor to humans. Defend the quality and value of your Christmas trees and safeguard your financial investment with Trico Pro.



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Real Christmas Tree Board

During 2023 and 2024, The Real Christmas Tree Board partnered with MSU Extension to host a quarterly webinar series. The topics included: communication as a representative of the Christmas tree industry, Elongated Hemlock Scale management, Christmas tree genome project, weed control, deer management & repellent, and promotion resources.

Free Webinar Series can be viewed at the link:

www.realchristmastreeboard.org/resources/webinars



800-832-4521

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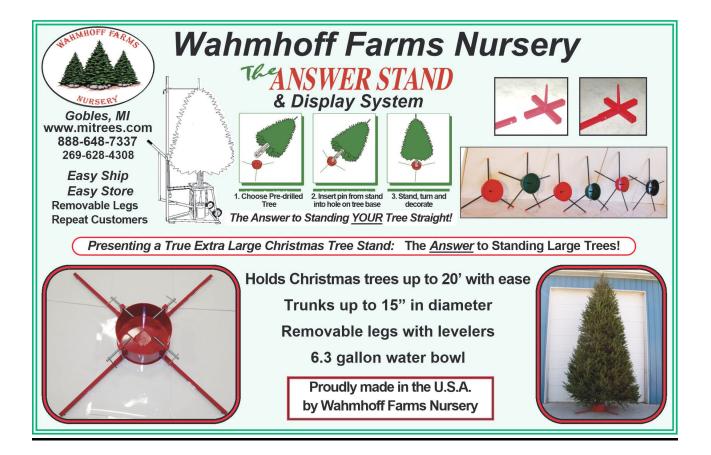




Growing Christmas Trees for the Future – Published September 23, 2024 – Justin Moore, N.C. State University

"With nearly \$7.5 million in funding, NC State is leading a project to accelerate the genetic improvement of Christmas trees across the United States. he NC State Christmas Tree Genetics Program has spent decades working to develop "elite" Fraser fir trees capable of withstanding these climate-related impacts. Now the program is one step closer to achieving its goal thanks to a nearly \$7.5 million, four-year grant awarded by the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. The grant is one of four NC State projects receiving a total of \$18.3 million in USDA funding.

"This project represents the best chance for not only Fraser fir but the major Christmas tree species grown around the United States to be rapidly adapted for future climates," said Justin Whitehill, NC State Extension specialist and director of the Christmas tree genetics program." To read the entire article go to <u>https://www.morningagclips.com/growing-christmas-trees-for-the-future</u>



MACT Openings

There are several openings in the MACT organization. We are currently seeking replacements for a few Board Member positions, the Treasurer, and also the Executive Administrator. Descriptions of the positions are below:

Board Member - meets three times per year (via telephone and at the summer meeting).

Treasurer –may be either an Active or Professional member. Deposit and track monies collected for membership, advertisement, and meetings. Prepare and maintain financial documents. Maintain bank accounts.

Executive Administrator – this is a permanent paid non-voting position on the MACT Board of Directors. The Executive Administrator reports to the board of Directors, Officers, and to the President of MACT. Duties include: Maintain membership; write and publish a bi-annual newsletter; collect registrations and monies for the annual meetings; Send the monies and a summary thereof to the MACT Treasurer; Assist in organizing the annual meeting; and Submit expense summaries to MACT Treasurer for payment.







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SELF-PROPELLED TREE BALER







Sympathy

MACT would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Ken Scheetz, Scheetz Tree Farm, Coshocton, Ohio who passed on June 5, 2024. Along with his wife, he owned & operated Scheetz Tree Farm for many years. Their first trees were planted in the Spring of 1959, followed by the first harvest for Christmas in Dec. 1962. Our thoughts and prayers are with Ken's family during these difficult times.

Trees for Troops

Trees for Troops anticipates serving 93 total bases in 2024. For pickup locations in Illinois, Indiana, and Missouri check out the local State Associations webpages for donation locations or contact https://www.christmasspiritfoundation.org/trees-for-troops /.

Additional Information

Scholarship Update: The MACT Board members approved the disbursement of the first \$1,000 scholarship to The Ohio State University forestry program. The 2025 scholarship will be presented to Michigan State University, forestry program due to MACT joining Michigan Christmas Tree Association meeting.

Last but not least, the Spring 2025 Newsletter will be issued around the beginning of May. If you have anything to submit, including photos from the upcoming season, please email to midamericachristmastreeassoc@gmail.com.

MACT Address: Please update the address for MACT to the following: MACT, C/O Kathy Woliung, 7621 SR 48, Aurora, IN 47001.

thin ods Evergreen and Wire and Baler Twine Edge Show Crosses, Candy Canes and Swags Tree Paints and Needlehold Tree Removal Bags Wreath Rings North Netting Netting Netting Tree Removal Bags

Mid-America Christmas Tree Association

2023-24 Officers and Directors

Officers (3 year terms) [no more than two successive terms]

President

Bill Holesinger 7250 Garden Plain Rd. Fulton, IL 61252 309-887-4892

Vice-President

Dennis Duke 8023 Mt. Zion Church Rd. Philpot, KY 42366 270-281-5555

Secretary/Treasurer

Joe Eise 25882 S. Lohman Rd. Wright City, MO 63390 636-745-7488 jeise1@hotmail.com

Executive Administrator

Kathy Woliung [appointed 04/01/22]

Board of Directors* (3-year term)

Bill Cackler 5025 Cackler Rd. Delaware, OH 43015 740-524-5311 cacklerfarms@gmail.com

Scott Heeren 5715 N 750 E Hamlet, IN 46532 574-540-1869 (cell) sbheeren@gmail.com Joe Evans 1538 N CR400 W Danville, IN 46122 317-797-3266 (cell) ewpfarms@aol.com

Charlie Meier 2805 Co. Rd. 330 Jackson, MO 63755 573-270-2498 meier_charlie@yahoo.com John Norris 8451 W. 100 S Arlington, IN 46104 317-903-9772 johnnorrisfurnituremaker@gmail.com

2024-2025 MEMBERSHIP LIST

The membership list is published on our website

www.midamericachristmastree.com

QUESTIONS?

Please contact Kathy Woliung, Executive Administrator

812-584-3593

midamericachristmastreeassoc@gmail.com