

Green Thumbs for Everyone
**Hints for a Happy
 and Green Holiday**
Indoors and Out

by Dabney Morgan of Coleman Nursery

The cold weather is here and the holiday is right around the corner. Since plants are now disappearing with the cold weather, this is an excellent time to prune and shape your shrubs and trees. Keep in mind, though, once you cut them off, they will be excellent for you to use indoors for your decorating.

FIRE SAFETY. - Be sure and practice good safety and keep the fresh trees and greens away from the direct heat, and of course, be careful of how long we leave them indoors because of the fire hazard.

CHRISTMAS TREE & GREENS. Also, to help you keep these things fresher, there are commercial products on the market that you can spray on your greens and keep them from drying out. There are Christmas tree preservatives to keep your trees from losing their sap. Also, I have a home remedy that I recommend, that works quite well for your fresh Christmas trees. Now remember the first thing that we do on our Christmas tree is we make a fresh cut on the bottom of the tree.

Recipe for tree preservative -
 use two aspirin,
 1 cup of Karo syrup
 1 quart of luke warm water.

Submerge the trunk of the tree in that solution as long as it will keep soaking up, always maintain an ample supply so that it continues soaking it up. This will help hold your needles longer through the season.



DECORATING INDOORS. Holiday season, decorate indoors with blooming plants such as Christmas cactus and Poinsettias. To keep them fresh, keep them out of drafts and away from direct heat.

These plants will need to be watered regularly, but remember, with all blooming plants, it is better to keep them damp, water often, but not wet. Water sparingly, so that consequently, you keep the soil damp, but not real wet.

Because of the drought of this summer, remember our wildlife has a limited food supply so this will be an

Welcome New Members



Commissioner Jimmy Gillerlain relaying bio of keynote speaker Capt. Taylor.



Commissioner Kimberly Little reciting poetry commemorating the occasion.

Operation Clean Up Portsmouth 2002 Results

	<u>Pounds</u>
Truxton	27,160
Cradock	14,340
West Park View	9,500
Highland Biltmore	32,740
Churchland	35,560
Parkview	25,830
Grand total Operation Clean Up 145,130 Pounds City-Wide	

excellent time to feed our wild-life birds and keep a good supply of bird seed out for them, and of course they need water so we want to keep a bird bath near by as well too.

JAN 23 I hope that at the end of the year when you make your New Year's resolution, you keep in mind to add gardening, conservation, recycling and of course we always want to consider our environment. I hope everyone has a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and we will see everybody next time – this is Dabney signing off.