



**MEEMIC Insurance Company**

*Insurance for Family and Friends of the Educational Community*

MEEMIC'S INFORMATION SERIES:

## CHRISTMAS TREE CARE



If you plan to have a live tree indoors to decorate for the holidays, be sure to keep these safety tips in mind:

- ◆ A real tree is a fire hazard. Take care in the selection of the tree, looking to pick:
  - ◆ Fresh trees that are a healthy color
  - ◆ Tree trunks that are sticky with sap
  - ◆ Needles that are healthy, not dry or falling off in abundance
- ◆ When ready to decorate, cut off about two inches of the trunk and put the tree in a sturdy, water-holding stand.
- ◆ Stand your tree away from fireplaces, radiators and other heat source.
- ◆ Never place lighted candles on a tree or place the tree near any flammable materials.
- ◆ Only use indoor lights on your indoor tree. Check lights for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections. Replace or repair any damaged light sets.
- ◆ Don't use more than three light sets on any one extension cord. Extension cords should be placed against the wall to avoid tripping hazards. Do not run cords under rugs.
- ◆ Check the tree daily for water. Keep the stand filled with water.
- ◆ Turn off the tree lights before going to bed and whenever you leave the house.