



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Pittsburgh District

# News Release

Public Affairs Office  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## CHRISTMAS TREES WANTED

GRAFTON, WEST VIRGINIA – What are you doing with your live-cut Christmas tree after the holidays? Please plan to donate it to the Christmas Tree Recycling Program sponsored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at [Tygart Lake](#) in partnership with the City of Grafton. Recycling used trees saves landfill space, helps to protect the environment and improves fish habitats. All trees donated will be used for fish attractor projects at Tygart Lake. The donated trees will be anchored along the Tygart Lake shoreline in February while the lake level is low so that when the lake returns to its summer levels the submerged trees will act as artificial reefs, providing enhanced habitat for the lake's fish and improved fishing opportunities in Tygart Lake. Once secured on the lake bottom, the sunken Christmas trees provide shade and hiding places for fish.

Residents and merchants with unsold trees can donate them by bringing them to the drop-off site under Bridge Street, near the Grafton City Garage. Trees will be accepted through January 31, 2012.

To be suitable for fish attractor projects, trees should be free of decorations, please remove all tinsel, ornaments, lights, garland, stands and plastic bags from the tree. Artificial or flocked trees (with artificial snow) cannot be accepted because they pose a hazard to wildlife. Loose limbs that have been pruned from trees or used for making garlands also cannot be accepted.

For more information or questions regarding the Christmas Tree Recycling Program call the Tygart Lake Office at 304-265-1760, Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The construction of fish attractors is labor intensive and it takes a team effort to place the trees along the shoreline and secure them to concrete blocks. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the installation of the fish attractors in February, please contact the Corps of Engineers at the number above.

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