

## Free Christmas Tree Recycling Returns In New Location

*Drop Off Trees Just Like You Found Them – Au Naturele - in Emerald Park*

**STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO-December 17, 2021**-Emerald Park will become the new home for the city's free Christmas Tree Recycling program after improvements were made to the parking area at the Rodeo Complex this past summer.

"We're excited to get mulching in the new location which we expect will grow roots as the new home for years to come," chipped Parks Supervisor Aaron Stafford. "This free community program recycles around 2,000 trees annually and the new location allows us to expand the number of trees we can accept."

The drop off location for the free Christmas Tree Recycling will move to Emerald Park, which provides more space to collect, process and store mulch than the previous space between the Ice Complex and Rodeo Grounds.



Safely dispose of your natural Christmas tree for free starting Wednesday, December 22 (for those that couldn't wait till Xmas) and running through the end of February. Trees can be dropped off in the northwest corner of the Emerald Park parking lot, accessible from US40 via Emerald Park Lane or Ski Town Way into the park. The collection site is on the pavement just to the east of the playground and maintenance sheds (*see graphic*).

Drop off is available seven days a week from sunrise to sunset. The city will take it just like you found it – AU NATURALE. That means all tinsel, ornaments, lights, nails, etc., must be removed before dropping off. **NO WREATHS accepted.**

"When you harvest a tree from the forest, you're helping improve forest health by thinning crowded areas," continued Stafford. "We can take that even further by recycling your tree and allowing it to continue to give long after the holidays. We hope everyone takes advantage of this complimentary community service."

The mulch will be provided to residents on a first come, first serve basis in the spring as well as used in city parks during the coming year.

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