

**10.14 Combustible Vegetation.**

**10.14.1** Combustible vegetation, including natural cut Christmas trees, shall be in accordance with Table 10.14.1.

**10.14.2** In any occupancy, limited quantities of combustible vegetation shall be permitted where the AHJ determines that adequate safeguards are provided based on the quantity and nature of the combustible vegetation.

**Table 10.14.1 Provisions for Christmas Trees by Occupancy**

Occupancy	No Trees Permitted	Cut Tree Permitted with Automatic Sprinkler Systems	Cut Tree Permitted Without Automatic Sprinkler Systems	Balled Tree Permitted
Ambulatory health care				X
Apartment buildings		Within unit	Within unit	X
Assembly	X			
Board and care	X			
Business		X		X
Day-care		X		X
Detention and correctional	X			
Dormitories	X			
Educational	X			
Health care				X
Hotels	X			
Industrial		X	X	X
Lodging and rooming		X		X
Mercantile		X		X
One and two family		X	X	X
Storage		X	X	X

**10.14.3\* Provisions for Fire Retardance.**

**10.14.3.1** Artificial vegetation and artificial Christmas trees shall be labeled or otherwise identified or certified by the manufacturer as being fire retardant.

**10.14.3.2** Such fire retardance shall be demonstrated by each individual decorative vegetation item, including any decorative lighting, in an approved manner.

**10.14.4** Vegetation and Christmas trees shall not obstruct corridors, exit ways, or other means of egress.

**10.14.5** Only listed electrical lights and wiring shall be used on natural or artificial combustible vegetation, natural or artificial Christmas trees, and other similar decorations.

**10.14.6** Electrical lights shall be prohibited on metal artificial trees.

**10.14.7** Open flames such as from candles, lanterns, kerosene heaters, and gas-fired heaters shall not be located on or near combustible vegetation, Christmas trees, or other similar combustible materials.

**10.14.8** Combustible vegetation and natural cut Christmas trees shall not be located near heating vents or other fixed or portable heating devices that could cause it to dry out prematurely or to be ignited.

**10.14.9 Provisions for Natural Cut Trees.**

**10.14.9.1** Where a natural cut tree is permitted, the bottom end of the trunk shall be cut off with a straight fresh cut at least ½ in. (13 mm) above the end prior to placing the tree in a stand to allow the tree to absorb water.

**10.14.9.2** The tree shall be placed in a suitable stand with water.

**10.14.9.3** The water level shall be maintained above the fresh cut and checked at least once daily.

**10.14.9.4\*** The tree shall be removed from the building immediately upon evidence of dryness.

**10.14.10 Exterior Vegetation.**

**10.14.10.1** Cut or uncut weeds, grass, vines, and other vegetation shall be removed when determined by the AHJ to be a fire hazard.

**10.14.10.2** When the AHJ determines that total removal of growth is impractical due to size or environmental factors, approved fuel breaks shall be established.

**10.14.10.3** Designated areas shall be cleared of combustible vegetation to establish the fuel breaks.

**10.15 Special Outdoor Events, Carnivals, and Fairs.**

**10.15.1 Permits.** Permits, where required, shall comply with Section 1.12.

**10.15.2** The AHJ shall be permitted to regulate all outdoor events such as carnivals and fairs as it pertains to access for emergency vehicles; access to fire protection equipment; placement of stands, concession booths, and exhibits; and the control of hazardous conditions dangerous to life and property.

**10.15.3 Life Safety Evaluation.** The AHJ shall be permitted to order a life safety evaluation in accordance with 12.4.1 of NFPA 101.