

Ten Communities Selected to Host the Tree of Hope

This year, a tree from the Ottawa National Forest in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan will grace the western lawn of the U.S. Capitol during the holiday season. The holiday tree, called the "Tree of Hope," is a gift from Michigan residents that is made possible with support from volunteers, corporate contributions, in-kind donations, grants and partnerships.

Michelle Engler, First Lady of Michigan and Honorary Chair, announced ten "Celebration Cities" that will host community events as the Tree makes its way from the Upper Peninsula, through Michigan, to Washington D.C.

<u>Community</u>	<u>Date</u>
Iron County	11/16
Marquette	11/17
Cadillac	11/18
Standish	11/19
Frankenmuth	11/20
Lansing	11/21
Kalamazoo	11/23
Ypsilanti	11/24
Port Huron	11/25
Lake Orion	11/30



2001 Capitol Holiday Tree

And the Winning Tree Is...

Every year since 1969 the U.S. Forest Service has provided the Capitol Holiday Tree or the “People’s Tree.” This year the tree was chosen from the Ottawa National Forest and the State of Michigan. It’s a tradition that the Ottawa National Forest is honored to continue.

Chosen for its size, shape and vibrancy, this tree represents one of Michigan’s most renewable resources: our forests. Because of well-managed forests throughout the state, Michigan boasts forests that are healthy, sustainable and productive. Did you know that Michigan’s forests are growing 2-1/2 times more wood than is being harvested each year?

Forest products touch our lives daily in many ways; from the newspaper you are reading right now, to the house you live in, to some of the products which you use daily including soaps, medicine, syrup, hockey sticks, dinnerware and much, much more. In fact, once our Capitol Holiday Tree is taken down at the end of the holiday season, we will be milling the tree into lumber that will be used to create Habitat for Humanity homes right here in Michigan!

In addition to providing the tree itself, the state of Michigan will create 6,000 ornaments to decorate the tree. Ornaments are being hand crafted by Michigan residents across the state. Transportation of the tree will be handled by partners, sponsors, volunteers, and others, as it is prepared to travel to Washington, D. C. in mid-November. As the Tree makes its way to our Nations’ Capitol, community celebrations will be hosted throughout the State. The tree lighting ceremony will be held December 12 or 13, and will be viewed by thousands of spectators as it is lit by the Speaker of the House at dusk.



TREE OF HOPE SPECIFICATIONS

SPECIES:	White Spruce
HEIGHT:	74’
AGE:	67 years
TRUNK DIAMETER:	37” @ 1 foot
BRANCH WIDTH:	40-42 feet