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LANSING

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Search for Next State Christmas Tree Begins

LANSING — The search for the State of Michigan Christmas tree is underway. The state is now taking nominations for the 2014 Christmas tree that will ultimately sit on the front lawn of the Capitol this November. The Department of Technology, Management and Budget (DTMB) announced today they are now searching for a 65-foot spruce or fir.

DTMB partners with the Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association to bring the tree to Lansing. In past years, trees have been found in various locations across the state, including the far reaches of the Upper Peninsula and as close to Lansing as Grand Ledge. Last year's tree came from Iron River.

"It may seem a little early to start talking about finding a Christmas tree in July, but it takes a considerable amount of time and effort to find just the right tree and plan for getting it to the state Capitol," said Phil Jeffery, Chief Deputy Director for DTMB.

The state requires the following criteria in order for the tree to be considered:

- Must be a spruce or a fir;
- Height must be a minimum of 65 feet, with a maximum crown of 30 feet and a maximum trunk diameter of 30 inches;
- Easy access from a road with no interference from wires; and
- Available at no cost.

After delivery of the tree, a DTMB crew then works with Hi-Ball Company of Lansing, who volunteers a crane and crew to set the tree. It all culminates with the lighting of the tree in downtown Lansing as part of the Annual Silver Bells in the City celebration.

Nominations are requested by Aug. 15, 2014. Individuals wishing to nominate a tree are asked to send their name, telephone number, a photograph of the tree and information about its size and location to ChristmasTree@michigan.gov, or by mail to:

Holiday Tree Search
Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget
Facilities Administration, Building Operations Division
P.O. Box 30026
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