

## Operation Evergreen and Holiday Greetings

**to service personnel overseas....**

Preparation is in motion for "Operation Evergreen", a service project developed by the OHIO Christmas Tree Association (OCTA) members in 1995-96. The purpose is to bring a little Christmas cheer in the form of REAL fresh cut Christmas trees to military personnel serving overseas, honoring them for the job they perform.

**This OCTA project, in its 22<sup>nd</sup> year, has grown from 30 trees to 325 in 2008. Trees only were sent originally, then decorations from schools, churches, civic groups and scout troupes were added in 1999.**

**For 2016. Planning is in progress to send 100 trees into Kuwait**

**Since 1999, young and old, have been given the opportunity to join in by making ornaments, garlands, banners, Christmas cards, producing CD's with Christmas music and more to be included with the trees.**

**School children find wishing a 'Merry Christmas' to the parents, aunts, uncles and cousins serving in our armed services an outlet for expressing their personal feelings.**

**(Garland--30-35' per tree, hand made Ornaments, a dozen in a bag, also cards, short essays, pictures of local vets cutting trees with the children, flags, CD's (homemade) of greetings and Christmas carols—all should have a way to be hung on the tree. Tree toppers-angels, stars, Santas...we could use one for each tree. Tree Stands or buckets (need to be small enough to fit in a 12"x12" box)... Other ideas-banners (which are left up after the season) signed at local events or activities and handmade items –a personal touch from you to the troops are especially appreciated.**

**Please include an e-mail address with the donation—the troops have access to e-mail—and they quite often reply!  
(Food items or printed religious pamphlets are not permitted)**

**For every 100 trees--with garland and a minimum of 48 ornaments per tree--we could use 4800+ ornaments, 3500 ft of garland, 100 tree toppers and stands!!**

**All the trees, boxes, ornaments, tree stands, packaging, assembly, transportation to the packing location is donated.**

**This year-2016, we are collecting donations to help with shipping by commercial carrier. Cost per tree is up to \$160**

**If you wish to join in, fill out the information below—fax, call or e-mail me with your info or any questions you may have. Thank-you for participating.**

Name of Organization/Farm \_\_\_\_\_

Street and/or mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_ phone \_\_\_\_\_

Donated Item(s), description and quantity if more than one

Or Make checks Payable to: **OCTA, Operation Evergreen**

Send to: **Ohio Christmas Tree Association, 6870 Licking Valley Rd**

**Frazeysburg OH, 43822**

**Deadline for monetary donations is October 26th**

**Amy Galehouse, Operation Evergreen Coordinator**

**Galehouse Tree Farms, Ph: 330-658-2480, 330-607-4487 Fax: 330-658-2485**

**E-mail: [galehousetreefarms@bright.net](mailto:galehousetreefarms@bright.net) or download info from [www.galehousetreefarms.com](http://www.galehousetreefarms.com)**

or Ohio Christmas Tree Assoc. office Ph/FAX: 740-828-3331, E-mail; [val@ohiochristmastree.com](mailto:val@ohiochristmastree.com)