



# Christmas Trees for Special Families





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## Resource Management with a Heart

- Began in 2012 as part of a Fuels Reduction Project at Galena Creek Regional Park.
- Originally conducted in partnership with Washoe County and the Nevada Division of Forestry:
  - Along with other "Ladder Fuels", White Fir Trees were harvested to improve forest health while reducing wildfire risk.
  - Working with Washoe County Social Services and the Nevada National Guard, 50-60 trees were paired with families with foster and adopted children, as well as those serving active-duty in the Nevada Air and Army National Guard.





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## Washoe County CSD Family Tradition

- The project is now a vital community program that continues to benefit the forest and families in need.
- Along with staff from Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space, CSD Roads and Operations staff have become important partners in the program.
- Once harvested, CSD Roads crews transport the trees to Rancho San Rafael Regional Park for the distribution event.





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## Washoe County CSD Family Tradition





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## Distribution Event

- Working with the Washoe County Human Services Agency and the Nevada National Guard, families are invited to accept a tree at a distribution event at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park.
- Distribution takes place on Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 4:00pm-7:00pm
  - Trees are provided free of charge
  - Fun activities and crafts
  - Pony Rides and Smokey Bear
  - Free tree recycling provided by Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful from Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>- Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>.



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Small trees make a large impact





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## Program Highlights:

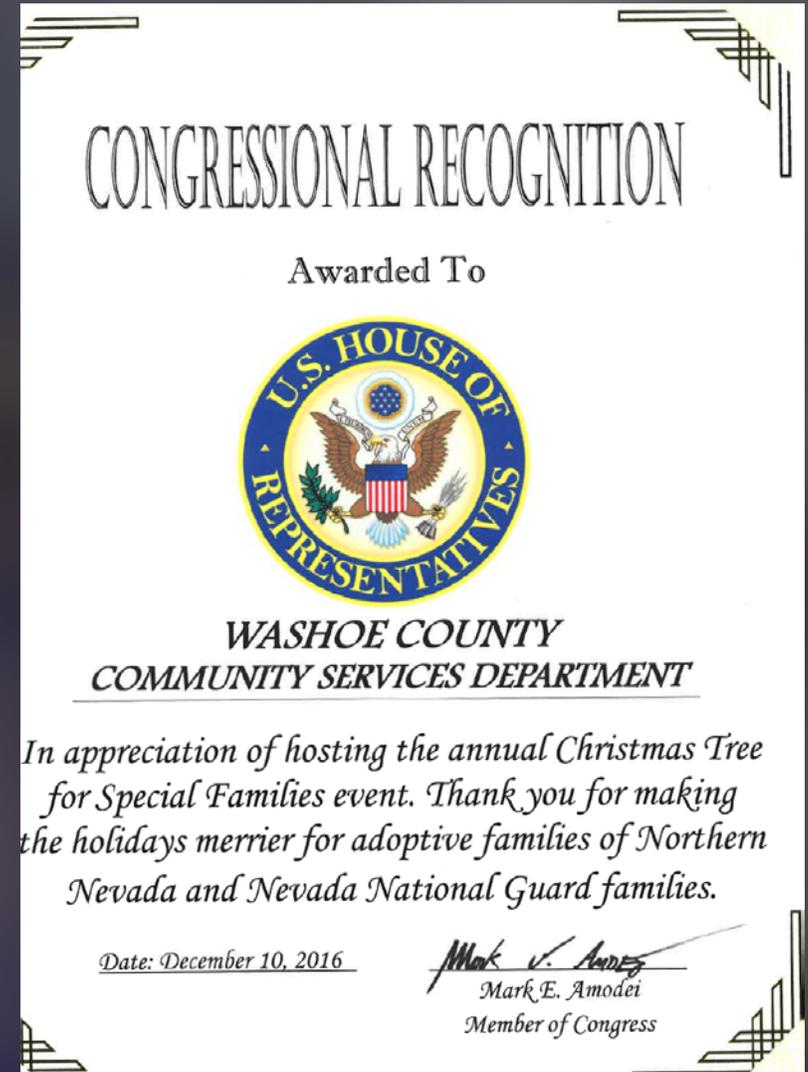
- Over 400 local families provided with a free Christmas Tree since 2012.
- Special Thanks to our Partners:
  - Nevada Division of Forestry
  - United States Forest Service
  - Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful
  - Washoe County Community Services Department and Human Services Agency



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## Program Highlights:

- Congressional Recognition in 2016
  - Letters of recognition were sent by U.S. Senator Dean Heller and U.S. Congressman Mark Amodei in appreciation of the program.





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