It is not too early to be thinking about Christmas trees and how to care for them. I know some folks put trees up early. Here are some timely tips:

Choose a tree that is very green and the needles are not falling off. I don't know when the trees are commercially cut, but it is in advance of the Christmas season.

Have a good base for your tree, one that has a receptacle for water. The tree will take up water and the moisture will go up the tree. Be sure to check the water level often. Ice cubes are easily added at this time and is less sloppy as well.

Try not to place your tree close to a heating vent or other heat source. This is very drying to the tree and would eventually make it a possible fire hazard. If one has to place your tree near a register, one can close off the register. I have effectively used a thick layer of magazines and heavy plastic near such placement.

One likes to have a tree in front of a window to show off to other folks and usually floor registers are placed under windows. I have never understood this construction arrangement and many homes are built on a slab foundation with the heat source from above. So place your tree away from the heat source.

Check your strings of lights and get new ones if the old ones seem the least bit defective. And of course the lights do not have to be on all the time. A timer switch is very effective and is not expensive or hard to use.
You can not create the smell of a live tree; which to me is the joy of Christmas smells. How about a potted tree? It can be planted out in your yard later, or given to a friend in need of a tree, or donated to the park here in Kingman.

**Have a safe and happy HOLIDAY SEASON!**

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