

A Christmas tree with a difference

(NC)—The week before Christmas is a time when people really don't think about much else except trying to get ready for the big day. Thinking about real estate is usually far down the list.

One of the Christmas traditions is, of course, the Christmas tree. And, believe it or not—and almost as far-fetched—these evergreen trees can make an impact on property values, not just at this season, but throughout the year.

Adds value

One of the obvious things is that good landscaping adds value to a property. And, part of this process includes the planting of trees and evergreen shrubs. Decorated with Christmas lights, the total look is one of a well cared-for property—which in turn increases the value of a listed property. Moreover, a well-treed lot will retain this premium throughout the year.

But having trees around a house provides an additional value that may not be so apparent. Evergreen trees in the winter act as a windbreak. When



REAL ESTATE AND YOU
Jamie Johnston

cold winter winds blowing against your walls are significantly reduced, the end result is lower heating bills to the homeowner.

In the summer, the exact opposite occurs. Having shade trees around a house cuts down on direct sunlight and reduces the heat being absorbed by the roof. This will produce lower air conditioning requirements—and lower electricity bills.

So when you're doing some landscaping next spring, just remember that trees on your property not only improve its appearance, but also reduce utility bills throughout the year. This can make a house more saleable. Who says money does not grow on trees? For a free copy of "How to Sell Your Home", please contact the Canada Trust/Realtor office nearest you.

QUICK TOUCH-UP TIPS FOR KITCHEN AND BATH

Don't let minor kitchen and bath repairs turn into big hassles. Choose a durable, all-purpose adhesive such as Elmer's Stix-All to fix nagging repairs in just 15 minutes.

Here are some of the ways this adhesive can be used around the house:

- Reaffix loose toothbrush holders or soap dishes;
- Mend torn or raised wallpaper;
- Replace loose or broken bathroom tiles;
- Reglue loose rubber on appliances;
- Attach plastic or metal hooks to walls or doors;
- Mount a bulletin board to the wall.

Apply adhesive to a clean surface. Remove all traces of dirt, wax, grease and moisture. Sand or roughen very smooth surfaces before applying adhesive. Apply Stix-All sparingly to one surface only and cover entire area.

To prevent surfaces from slipping while glue is curing, clamp surfaces together or secure with masking tape or elastic bands for at least six hours. Allow to cure 24 hours before using.

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Beautiful 3 bedroom sidesplit, consisting of living room, dining room, family room and den. Located in Georgetown on approximately 60 x 120 ft. lot, this home has mature trees and walkout to a private patio. Hardwood floors complemented with quality broadloom and neutral colours, make this home a must to see. For appointment to view call Dan Timmons at 873-1881.

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