

Neighborhood Light Tree

Materials

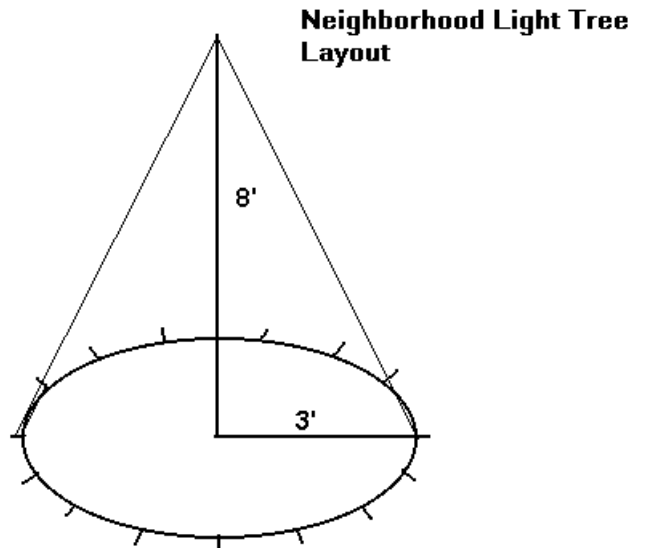
- 10' 1.5" diameter pvc pipe cut to 8'
- 10' 1.0" diameter pvc pipe cut to 40" (makes 3; share with friends)
- 16 green stakes to anchor lights (Stakes can be 6"-12" long.)
- 20 4" nylon ties
- 175 Ft. of miniature green lights
- 1 extension cord long enough to reach an outlet
- 1 can Christmas green paint

Tools

- Measuring tape
- Saw
- Hammer
- Step Ladder optional

Preparation

1. Check to be sure all the lights work.
2. Cut 1.5" diameter pvc pipe to 8'
3. Paint 8' pole green
4. Cut 1.0" diameter pvc pipe to 40"
5. Cut 4 equally spaced notches 0.5" wide and 1" deep into one end of the 1.5" diameter pipe.
6. Select a location for the light tree.
7. Drive the 1.0 diameter pvc pipe 1' into the ground. Take care to keep it vertical
8. Slide the 8' 1.5" diameter pvc pipe with notched end at top, over the 1" pipe in the ground.



Stake placement

The following steps will place 16 equally spaced stakes in a circle with a radius of 3' around the center pole. The spacing between stakes is about 13".

1. Measure 3' out from the pipe and drive a stake half its length into the ground at about a 45 degrees angle slanted away from the pole.
2. Repeat the same procedure with a stake on the opposite side of the pole. The second stake, the pole, and the first stake form a straight line.
3. Place two additional stakes ninety degrees from the first two. That is, think of the first two stakes are at 12 and 6 o'clock, and place the next two stakes at 3 and 9 o'clock.
4. Place 4 additional stakes 3' from the pole and halfway between the stakes at the 12, 3, 6, and 9 o'clock positions.
5. Place 8 additional stakes equally spaced between the stakes that are already in the ground.
6. Check stakes for correct placement.

Attach the Lights

1. With a nylon tie, attach the end of a string of lights to be plugged into the extension cord to a stake.
2. Extend the lights over the top of the pole. Place the wire in the notches at the top of the pole. With another nylon tie attach the lights to the stake opposite the first one.
3. Extend the lights clockwise to the next stake and attach them to this stake.
4. Extend the lights over the pole to the opposite stake, attach them and continue to repeat this procedure.
5. When you get to the end of the first string of lights, plug the second string into the end of the first string and continue the above process.
6. When you get to the end of the first two strings of lights, attach any extra wire to the adjacent stakes. The extra lights will eventually form a circle at the bottom of the light tree.
7. Attach the third string of lights to the unused stake adjacent to the first stake. Allow enough wire to reach the extension cord.
7. Repeat the above procedure while moving counterclockwise between stakes until the lights are attached to all the stakes.
8. Attach the remaining lights around the bottom of the light tree to the stakes to complete the circle at the bottom.
9. Plug the lights into the extension cord.
10. Attach the end of the extension cord and plugs to a stake to keep rain from entering the connections.
11. Depending on the type of extension cord used, you may want to cover the connection with a plastic bag.

Please turn your lights on at dark and leave them on until at least 10 pm.

Thank you for your participation and Merry Christmas.