

***Article for December, 2025***

## **The Season of Green**

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'Tis the time of year for winter celebrations. The days are shorter and the nights are as long as the bamboo stalks growing in my backyard. Up north, it is a time of swirling feathery snow and frosty temperatures. In a poem titled *Snowflakes*, Unitarian Emily Dickenson wrote, "...And ten of my once stately toes, are marshalled for a jig." Clearly, the author couldn't help but delight at the sight of snow. However, the only white stuff upon which we Floridians will likely dance is upon soft sand.

Regardless of where a person resides, one common love is our adoration of the evergreen tree. It remains green regardless of the weather. Blue Spruce, Cedar and Pine\*. All are traditional symbols of resilience and fortitude.

As you meander the terrain that is life in America throughout this holiday season, I hope you will take a moment to find your inner "evergreen." Even when anxious or weary, may our shared resolve to make the world a better place, to promote kindness, peace, and more love remain steadfast.

\*Just an FYI: Florida pine trees are struggling. <https://flowergardennews.com/why-are-florida-s-pine-trees-dying.html>