



**U.S. Forest Service
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News Release

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Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests office open on Saturdays to sell Christmas tree permits

Heber-Overgaard, AZ; November 22, 2016 – To better serve the needs of our public, the Black Mesa Ranger District in Heber-Overgaard will be open on select Saturdays to sell Christmas tree permits from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. as follows:

- November 26
- December 3, 10, and 17

Christmas tree permits can be purchased through December 23 at all five ranger districts or through the mail. The process for purchasing your permit through the mail is as follows:

- Make out a check or money order to *USDA Forest Service*
- Include a self-addressed stamped envelope, and a contact phone number.

Please start the process at least 10 days prior to your planned cutting date. There are still approximately 5,200 Christmas tree cutting permits available for sale. The cost per permit is \$15 for a tree up to 10 feet tall. For trees over 10 feet, you must contact the ranger district and make arrangements through them.

As part of the *Every Kid in a Park* initiative, every fourth-grader with a valid fourth-grade pass is eligible for a free Christmas tree permit. This can only be done in person at the ranger districts and the fourth-grader and his/her pass must be present. For more information on Every Kid in a Park visit the website at <https://everykidinapark.gov/>.

Cutting is allowed as long as a permit has been purchased; and will end Christmas Eve (December 24) at midnight. General information about the Christmas tree cutting program is also available on the Christmas tree permit hotline at 928.333.6229 and the ASNFs Christmas tree web page at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/asnf/passes-permits>. Purchase by mail instructions are at http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd519561.pdf.

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