

TONTO National Forest



Recreation
Opportunity
Guide

www.fs.fed.us/r3/tonto



GATHERING FOREST PRODUCTS

FIREWOOD

Many Arizona families take a day or two from their busy schedules and trek to the forest to cut firewood using a Dead-and-Down permit to gather firewood.

The Tonto National Forest issues Dead-and-Down wood permits at all district offices. Permits are not issued at the Forest Supervisor's Office. They are only issued to customers in person and generally expire at the end of the year.

COLLECTING AREAS

Globe Ranger District, Payson Ranger District, Pleasant Valley Ranger District and Tonto Basin Ranger District. Firewood gathering is not permitted on the Cave Creek Ranger District and the Mesa Ranger District.

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Why are fuelwood permits not issued during the months of January through March?

A: There is no harvesting or cutting of fuelwood, as well as other forest Products during this time, in order to prevent damaging forest lands and roads.

Q: Do I need to have a permit to gather firewood while camping?

A: No, not if the firewood is only for use during your camping stay. Be sure to use dead and down material.

Q: While cutting firewood for my home, do I need to have my permit with me?

A: Yes. The Tonto National Forest issues Dead and Down wood permits and it is required that the permit be with the person gathering the firewood.

Q: What is "Dead and Down?"

A: Dead and Down is a tree or part of a tree lying on the ground as a result of natural mortality or because of previous legal timber sales or permitted harvesting.

Q: May I cut firewood for someone else on his or her permit?

A: Only if you are accompanying the permit holder.

Q: What should we bring when harvesting firewood?

A: You should bring your permit, an axe or a

chainsaw equipped with a spark arrester, and items such as drinking water and snacks. It is always wise to be prepared for an emergency by bringing extra clothing, blankets, a shovel, a first aid kit and a flashlight.

Q: May I receive more than one permit to gather firewood?

A: Yes.

Q: Where may I obtain a permit?

A: You may obtain a permit at all Tonto National Forest district offices. Permits are not available at the Forest Supervisor's Office in Phoenix.

Q: Where may we gather firewood?

A: All of the Tonto National Forest districts, except Mesa and Cave Creek, allow permit holders to gather firewood except in designated Wilderness areas.

Q: Where may I obtain more information?

A: Contact Zone Forestry Group Leader, Payson Ranger District, 928-474-7900.

