



**U.S. Forest Service
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News Release

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Christmas tree cutting permits on sale starting October 3

Springerville, AZ; September 20, 2016— It's that time of year when we start thinking about getting ready for the Christmas season. Each year thousands of people cut their Christmas tree from the national forests. This year the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests (ASNFs) will have Christmas tree cutting permits available at all five ranger districts. We have 7,500 tree permits available for any tree species.

Permits will be on sale at all five ranger districts beginning October 3. You will be able to purchase through the mail, detailed directions will be available on the forest website.. Each Christmas tree permit costs \$15. The cutting season will end Christmas Eve (December 24) at midnight.

As part of the Every Kid in a Park initiative, every fourth grader with a valid 4th grade pass is eligible for a **free Christmas tree permit**. The child, his pass or voucher, and parent/guardian will need to come in person to the district office to get the permit. These **cannot** be mailed.

Detailed information about the Christmas tree cutting program will be available after September 25 on the Christmas tree permit hotline (928) 333-6229 and the ASNFs web site main page and under "Passes and Permits" at www.fs.usda.gov/asnf.

General Rules for Christmas Tree Permits

- Each Christmas tree permit is \$15 for a tree up to 10 feet tall.
- One Christmas tree permit allowed per household and are for personal use only.
- Trees must be cut within designated cutting areas.
- Trees may be cut until midnight December 24.
- There are no refunds on Christmas tree permits.

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