



# Christmas Tree Permits

2019

## Eldorado National Forest

Since the early 1500's, trees have been the center of holiday activities for many people. Begin the holiday season with an outing to cut the family tree on the Eldorado National Forest. Christmas Tree Permits are being offered to the public in an effort to help reduce hazardous fuel ladders that have built up over years of fire suppression. Removal of excessive amounts of small trees from the forest will help create a healthier forest over time.



- ◆ **Cost:** \$10 for each tag (**cash only**). Limit of 2 tags per person/household. Permittee must be present to purchase permit. Photo ID required.
  - ◇ 4th graders with a valid Every Kid Outdoors Pass are entitled to 1 free Tag. To obtain a pass go to [www.EachKidOutdoors.gov](http://www.EachKidOutdoors.gov).
- ◆ **Where to Purchase:** The Supervisor's Office, Placerville, Amador and Georgetown Ranger Districts Monday through Friday (closed Thanksgiving). Although the offices are open from 8 am to 4:30 pm, Christmas Tree permit sales will end at 4 pm in order to complete the permit processing for the day. The Supervisor's Office, Amador and Georgetown Ranger offices will also be open Saturdays on 11/23, 11/30, and 12/7 (unless all the tags have been sold out by that date).
- ◆ **Size:** A maximum trunk diameter of 6 inches at the base of the tree and a tree height of 20 feet.
- ◆ **Tree Species:** Pine, fir, or cedar. Do not cut any hardwood; such as, aspen or oak.
- ◆ **When:** Tags will be issued from November 18th until all tags are issued but no later than 12:00 pm on December 27th. In order to accommodate our serving military members and their families or others celebrating a delayed Christmas, the last day to cut a tree is December 31st.
- ◆ **Permits:** Non-transferable. No Refunds = All Sales are Final. Permit must be in possession when cutting and transporting tree(s).
- ◆ **Restrictions:** Motorized vehicles are only allowed on existing roads and trails that are open to the public, except where snowmobiles are allowed.

### Make a Plan!

- √ Share your planned route with family or friends prior to your departure. Tell them when you plan to leave and when you plan to return. Agree what actions will be taken if you don't return according to your plan.
- √ Be sure your vehicle is in top working order and that your tires have good tread. Prepare for mechanical emergencies by carrying the proper tools, including tire chains and a shovel.
- √ Equip your vehicle with an emergency first aid kit, food, water and extra blankets or sleeping bags. A basic survival kit which includes matches and a candle is a must.
- √ Dress in layers of warm clothing so you can easily add or remove clothing for comfort.
- √ Handsaws are recommended for Christmas Tree cutting. **And don't forget to bring rope to tie your tree down for transport!**

### Safety Tips for Planning Your Outing

It is important that you ask questions. Forest Service employees can provide valuable information about road and trail access and permissive cutting. Use this information to plan your trip and travel route. A Christmas Tree Cutting map will be provided when you purchase your Christmas Tree Tag.

*Cut your tree early to avoid road closures due to weather.*

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.





## Every Kid Outdoors - Free Tree for 4th Graders

In support of Every Kid Outdoors, established under presidential proclamation, the Forest Service will offer one free Christmas tree tag to fourth-grade students who present a valid paper voucher or durable Every Kid Outdoors pass.

To obtain the free Christmas tree permit/tag, **fourth-grade students must obtain the paper pass online**, present the printed pass in person along with their parent or guardian to a Forest Service office and participate in the cutting of the Christmas tree. To obtain the paper pass and to learn more about the Every Kid Outdoors program, visit [www.EveryKidOutdoors.gov](http://www.EveryKidOutdoors.gov).

### Good Stewardship

Christmas Tree Permits are being offered to the public in an effort to help reduce hazardous fuel ladders that have built up over years of fire suppression. Removal of excessive amounts of small trees from the forest will help create a healthier forest over time.

- \* Scatter all discarded branches away from roads, ditches, and culverts.
- \* Cut your tree as close to the ground as possible. Stump should be 12 inches or less. Select a tree that is the right height for your needs do NOT cut a tall tree just to take the top.
- \* As the purpose is to thin the understory of our forest, choose a tree within 10 feet of another green tree.

### Please Remember...

- ◆ Obey all local laws and regulations regarding parking restrictions. Be mindful that travel on Forest System Roads may be closed or restricted to over the snow travel, i.e. snowmobile.
- ◆ **Be respectful** of adjacent private property, no cutting within 100 feet of private residences. **DO NOT** cut on private land or other non- National Forest System Lands.)
- ◆ Handsaws are recommended, but if you choose to use a chainsaw it must be equipped with a properly operating spark arrester system and either a fire extinguisher or long handled shovel are required. Ensure you are cutting on a permissive cut day by calling (530) 295-5699.
- ◆ And enjoy the forest and your experience!

### Other Sources for Cutting Christmas Trees

**Local Tree Farms** - There are over 30 local Christmas Tree farms in the area. Many of these also provide food, crafts, activities, and a chance to visit with Santa Claus. Look for more information on Local Christmas Tree farms at <https://chooseandcut.com/>

### Office Locations

#### Supervisor's Office

Placerville Drive/Forni Road exit,  
100 Forni Road  
Placerville, CA 95667  
(530) 622-5061

#### Placerville Ranger District

7 ½ miles east of Placerville on  
Highway 50 – Cedar Grove (Exit #54)  
4260 Eight Mile Road  
Camino, CA 95709  
(530) 644-2324

#### Amador Ranger District

17 miles east of Jackson on Highway 88  
26820 Silver Drive  
Pioneer, CA 95666  
(209) 295-4251

#### Georgetown Ranger District

3 miles east of Georgetown on  
Wentworth Springs Road  
7600 Wentworth Springs Road  
Georgetown, CA 95634  
(530) 333-4312

