



CHRISTMAS TREE CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS

The opportunity for you to cut a Christmas tree is provided for you to have a recreational experience on the Gila National Forest. We hope it is enjoyable, but a few rules are necessary for proper administration and to protect the environment.

KEEP THESE INSTRUCTIONS AND YOUR TAG WITH YOU WHILE YOU ARE IN THE FOREST AND WHILE THE TREE IS IN YOUR POSSESSION ENROUTE TO YOUR DESTINATION. THEY ARE A PART OF YOUR PERMIT AND YOUR PERMIT IS NOT VALID WITHOUT THEM.

1. On the Gila National Forest, Christmas trees may be cut and removed with your issued permit beginning November 24, 2014, through December 24, 2014.
2. This permit does not allow for cutting in Wilderness, private land areas, or areas marked "Closed to Christmas Tree Cutting."
3. Do not cut within 200 feet of any paved road or developed recreation area. Do not cut in stream beds.
4. The tallest tree you may cut from ground level is 10 feet. You may purchase a permit to cut a taller tree.
5. Cut stumps to within 8 inches from the ground.
6. Boughs and branches trimmed from trees cut for Christmas trees may be taken for decorations. Do not cut branches from live trees.
7. Any limbs or portions of the tree left on the ground must be trimmed down to 12 inches (or lower in height) from the ground. This will provide a more pleasing appearance to the area and reduce the fire hazard through faster decomposition of the branches.
8. Attach your tag immediately to the tree in a manner that it cannot be removed without tearing it.
9. No off-road driving in posted "CLOSED AREAS".
10. Some Ranger Districts may have certain areas where Christmas Trees may be cut. Please check with the appropriate District Office where you will be cutting your Christmas tree.



- ❖ Road conditions can be bad. Be prepared for mud and snow by carrying tire chains, tow chain and shovel.
- ❖ Keep your vehicle on the road to prevent ruts and subsequent erosion.
- ❖ Leave early enough to be back to the car before dark. Remember, it gets dark quite early this time of year.
- ❖ For an extended hike, carry: maps, compass, whistle, knife, and flashlight.
- ❖ Dress to protect yourself from wind, cold, and wetness. Take matches, protective clothing, first aid kit, extra food and water.
- ❖ Close all gates and, if you PACK-IT-IN be sure to PACK-IT-OUT!

Happy Holidays



From the Gila National Forest

