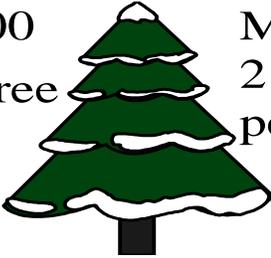


FLATHEAD NATIONAL FOREST *PERSONAL USE* CHRISTMAS TREE GUIDELINES

\$5.00  
per tree



Maximum  
2 trees  
per household

Cutting the family Christmas tree is an outing that people who live near forested lands can enjoy during the holiday season. The Flathead National Forest has an abundant choice of trees from which to choose. A permit is required to cut your tree on the National Forest. The permit is \$5.00 per tree, with a maximum of 2 trees per household. Permits are available at all Flathead National Forest offices. If you are unsure of the Forest boundary, maps showing ownership are available at the Supervisor's Office in Kalispell, or at the District Ranger Stations in Bigfork and Hungry Horse.

Cutting your Christmas tree can improve or damage the forest. We request that you follow these guides when getting your tree:

Christmas trees cut to thin overcrowded stands can be beneficial. As young stands of trees mature, they are constantly competing for more space. By cutting your Christmas tree from dense groups around the more vigorous trees, the remaining trees will grow faster to make our future forest.

We ask that you do not cut in plantations, previously thinned stands of trees, campgrounds, or areas posted as closed to Christmas tree cutting.

**Only trees that are three to four inches in diameter or less at the stump should be cut. The stump should be cut below eight inches in height. Remove all the limbs from the unused portion of the tree, including the live limbs from the stump. Please do not cut large trees just for their tops.**

Forest Service roads which are plowed in the winter may have logging traffic. Please drive safely, and be alert for other hazards that may occur. Park in an area where other traffic can get by safely.

We hope you will follow these cutting guides, and have a safe and enjoyable outing.