



Flathead National Forest

Media Release

November 18, 2010

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National Forest Christmas Tree Permits Available

Christmas tree permits from the Flathead National Forest are available for \$5 each from Forest Service Offices in Kalispell, Hungry Horse, and Bigfork, and from a variety of vendors across the valley. Each permit is valid for one tree and there is a maximum of three permits per household. Commercial permits are not available.

The forest has an abundant choice of trees from which to choose. Trees **may not** be cut in campgrounds or other developed areas, plantations, previously thinned stands and areas posted closed to Christmas tree cuttings. The permit must be fastened around the tree trunk prior to transporting your tree from the National Forest.

Please select a tree that is three to four inches in diameter or less at the stump. The stump should be cut as close to the ground as possible, 8" or shorter. Do not cut the top of a tree or leave live limbs attached to the stump. The Christmas tree permit is only for National Forest System lands. There are other privately-owned and industry-owned lands in the Flathead Valley area that may not allow Christmas tree cutting, so please check the ownership of the land before you cut a Christmas tree.

Please drive safely and be alert for winter driving conditions. It is always a good idea to have a map and be aware of your location. For a permit or more information about cutting Christmas trees on the Flathead National Forest, please contact a local Forest Service Office:

Tally Lake Ranger District/Supervisor's Office	758-5204
Hungry Horse-Glacier View and Spotted Bear Ranger Districts	387-3800
Swan Lake Ranger District	837-7500

Snappy's Sport Senter	Kalispell
Kelly Rae's Conoco	Kalispell
Mike's Conoco	Columbia Falls, Hungry Horse and Whitefish
Local Joes Gas & Grub (Conoco)	Bigfork
Ronan Power Products	Ronan
Ronan Sports and Western	Ronan
Swan Ecosystem Center	Condon
Swan Lake Trading Post	Swan Lake
Swan Valley Centre	Condon
Mayert Mercantile	Olney
Glacier Center	Coram
Bear Track Travel Center	East Glacier
Ferndale Market	Ferndale

All Flathead National Forest Offices will be closed on Thursday, November 25 in observance of Thanksgiving. Offices will be open on Friday, November 26, 8am to 4:30pm, except for the Swan Lake Ranger District in Bigfork which will be closed on Friday.

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