



CHRISTMAS TREES 2011

MT. BAKER-SNOQUALMIE NATIONAL FOREST



Finally found the perfect Christmas tree Charlie Brown would be proud of.

Permits are available to purchase for cutting a Christmas tree only on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest beginning Nov. 14 through Dec. 24.

Cutting areas are located within national forest lands in the eastern portions of Pierce, King, Snohomish, Skagit and Whatcom counties. Maps and information about cutting areas are provided where permits are sold at ranger stations and the Verlot and Glacier Public Service Centers.

Additionally, permits are sold at REI's Alderwood Mall and the Outdoor Recreation Information Center located inside the downtown Seattle REI store. Permits cost \$10 each, one tree per permit, with a tree height limit of 12 feet. The permits are nonrefundable.

Trees taller than 12 feet require a special permit at a minimum price of \$20. Credit cards are not accepted at Forest Service offices or the Outdoor Recreation Information Center in the Seattle REI store, however, the REI at Alderwood Mall will take them. Forest Service offices and REI stores are closed Thanksgiving Day. Forest Service offices may close early Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve, so call ahead for operating hours.

Plan to purchase a parking permit if the trip includes parking in a designated Sno-Park lot. Getting a tree early before substantial snow falls usually means better access on forest roads. "Set out early in the day to allow for maximum daylight and let friends or relatives know where you are going and when to expect you back," said Forest Service's Dave Kendrick, who oversees the Christmas tree permit program. Most trees are accessible only by narrow, unplowed mountain roads. High-clearance vehicles are often required along with tire chains and a shovel. Check ranger stations for road and weather information, or go online to www.fs.usda.gov/goto/mbs/road-trails. Find local Christmas tree farms information at: www.pscta.org/ or <http://www.nwtrees.com/factsframe.htm>.

Offices and Locations

Permits purchased at these locations are valid only on the Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest for this year. Call for more information.

Mt. Baker Ranger Station

810 State Route 20 Sedro-Woolley, WA
360-856-5700 Ext. 515
Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Nov. 26-27, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.
Dec. 3-4, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.
Dec. 10-11, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Glacier Public Service Center

Mt. Baker Highway 542 Glacier, WA
360-599-2714
Weekends, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Darrington Ranger Station

1405 Emens Ave. N. Darrington, WA
360-436-1155
Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Nov. 26, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.
Dec. 3, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.
Dec. 10, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Verlot Public Service Center

33515 Mountain Loop Highway, Granite Falls, WA
360-691-7791
Weekends, Nov. 25, 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Skykomish Ranger Station

74920 NE Stevens Pass Hwy, Skykomish, WA
360-677-2414
Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Nov. 26-27, 8 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.
Dec. 3-4, 8 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.

Snoqualmie Ranger Stations

North Bend Office
902 SE North Bend Way North Bend, WA
425-888-1421
Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Nov. 26-27, 8 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.
Dec. 3-4, 8 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.
Dec. 10-11, 8 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.

Enumclaw Office

450 Roosevelt Ave. E. Enumclaw, WA
360-825-6585
Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Nov. 26-27, 8 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.
Dec. 3-4, 8 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.
Dec. 10-11, 8 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.

Seattle REI

Outdoor Recreation Information Center
222 Yale Ave. N. Seattle, WA
206-470-4060
Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.- 6 p.m.

REI Alderwood Store

3000 184th St. SW Lynnwood, WA
425-640-6200
Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.- 9 p.m.;
Sun. 11 a.m.-7 p.m.



Tree Care

Once you've returned home with your tree, leave it outside in a shady area in a bucket of water. The water will keep the tree fresh.

Once you bring your tree inside, fill the tree stand with water every day.

Rules

Look for posted signs where cutting is prohibited. Maps are available online and where permits are purchased.

Tree cutting is not allowed on developed campgrounds, administrative sites or on private or state owned lands within the national forest.

When parked at a trailhead, place the tree tag on the driver's side of the dashboard in lieu of a Northwest Forest Pass.

Parking in a designated Sno-Park without a permit is subject to a \$100 fine. Permits can be purchased at Forest Service offices near Sno-Park areas. Visit the Washington State Parks and Recreation website for information about Sno-Park parking permits at <http://www.parks.wa.gov/winter/permits.asp>.

Cutting a Christmas tree without a permit is subject to a \$275 fine (Code of Federal Regulation CFR 36 261.6(a)).

Removing a Christmas tree without a permit is subject to a \$175 fine (CFR 36 261.6(h)).

Permits are valid for trees up to 12 feet in height. Topping a tree over 12 feet in height is subject to a minimum fine of \$75 (CFR 36 261.10(l)).

Cut trees 12 inches or less above the ground level. Remove snow from base of tree if it is not visible. Cut off limbs remaining on the stump.

Safety First

- Prepare ahead for changing weather and driving conditions.
- Tell someone where you are going and what time you expect to return home.
- Have a full tank of fuel. Carry a shovel, flashlight, tire chains, matches and blankets in your vehicle. Also, bring along food and warm drinks such as cocoa.
- Wear proper winter clothing and carry extra in case you get wet. Some areas may be open to hunting, so wear brightly colored clothing or hunter's orange.
- Most forest roads are not snow plowed or maintained during the winter. Watch out for ice and snow, some areas may require chains and a four-wheel drive vehicle for access.
- Turn on headlights for visibility. Expect heavy traffic in popular tree cutting areas.
- Turn your vehicle around upon arrival, snow accumulations can inhibit turning a vehicle around later. Do not block the road. Park vehicles on a road shoulder or turn-out areas.

The Forest Service will not snow plow the Hansen Creek Road (Forest Service Road 5510) on the I-90 corridor and Forest Service roads 7010 and 75 up the Highway 410 corridor.

