



Cutting Your Own Christmas Tree on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests 2011

Visit us at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/gmug>

Permit Information

Sales: • Permits are \$8.00 per tree - limit 5 trees per household – for personal use only and not for resale – all sales are final and non-refundable.

Sale Dates: • November 21 - December 31, 2011 – offices are closed on observed holidays (Nov 24, Dec 26, Dec 31, 2011).

Sale Times: • During posted business hours – (call for times).

Expiration Date: • Permits expire at midnight on December 31, 2011.

Species:

Subalpine fir, Engelmann spruce, Lodgepole pine, Douglas-fir, Ponderosa pine, Pinyon pine, Juniper - local species cutting restrictions may apply - ask at local district offices.

Permit Regulations

Cutting Regulations:

- This permit only authorizes the cutting of trees 6 inches (or less) in trunk diameter, measured at 6 inches above ground level – please ensure that all live limbs attached to cut stump have been cut off to prevent re-growth.
- Topping of trees is not allowed (i.e. cutting only the top of tree and leaving the bottom with live limbs attached).
- Tag tree(s) before leaving the cutting area - rap tag around a large sturdy lower limb or tree trunk – each tag has adhesive on backside to ensure firm grip.
- Permits must be clearly visible on trees when transporting by vehicle.

Area Regulations:

- Cutting is permitted only on National Forest System lands.
- Respect private property rights and watch for no trespassing signs – know where you are before you cut.
- CUTTING RECOMMENDED – Within powerline corridors, fuels treatment areas, densely tree stocked areas – attached maps show other recommended cutting areas – ask at local district offices for other suitable areas.
- CUTTING PROHIBITED – Within administrative sites, picnic areas, campgrounds, trailheads, scenic pullouts, tree plantations, wilderness areas, other areas signed on ground or mapped as “Closed to Christmas Tree Cutting” – **attached maps show other prohibited cutting areas.**
- Pack out your trash.

Special Regulations:

See Attachment #1 for special district regulations and Christmas Tree Cutting maps.

Travel Regulations:

- All Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest Travel Plan Management Restrictions apply - obtain maps at Forest Service Offices listed below.
- Keep to designated routes that are open to vehicular traffic.
- Do not drive on designated and groomed snowmobile trails - designated routes are closed when there is sufficient snow to maintain trail grooming with snow equipment.
- Park in a safe location and out of traffic path.

Recommendations:

- Call a district office for local road conditions, weather and travel advisory information.
- Four-wheel drive vehicle or chains.
- Full tank of gas.
- Handsaw, axe, shovel for digging snow.
- Tarp, rope or tie-downs.
- Dress appropriately for winter weather.
- Sled, snowshoes are advisable at higher elevations.
- First-aid kit, food, extra water, blanket, warm liquids.

Where to Obtain Permits: Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, & Gunnison National Forest Offices:

Business Hours: (call for times), Monday – Friday (closed on observed holidays-Nov 24, Dec 26, Dec 31, 2011).

Forest Supervisor’s Office, 2250 Hwy 50, Delta: 970-874-6600

Norwood District, 1150 Forest St., Norwood: 970-327-4261

Ouray District, 2505 S. Townsend, Montrose: 970-240-5400

Grand Valley District, 2777 Crossroads Blvd, Grand Junction: 970-242-8211

Gunnison District, 216 N. Colorado, Gunnison: 970-641-0471
Paonia District, 403 N. Rio Grande Ave, Paonia: 970-527- 4131

Christmas tree permits may also be obtained at the following cooperating vendors:

Business Hours: times may vary, please call ahead

Padilla's Mesa General Store, Mesa, CO - (970) 268-5484
Weekdays 10:30am – 6pm
Weekends 10:30am – 6pm

The Creamery, Collbran, CO - (970) 487-3511
Weekdays 6:00am-7:30pm
Sat 9am-7pm
Sun 9am-5pm

Murdock's, Montrose, CO – (970) 249-9991

The Christmas Tree program is a Recreation Enhancement Act project. Funds collected are retained on the Forest for management of the Christmas Tree program.