

TONTO NATIONAL FOREST 2014

Payson and Pleasant Valley Ranger Districts Only Cutting and Gathering Instructions for Free Personal-Use Firewood, Dead/Down and Dead/Standing Ponderosa and Pinyon Pine only

Within the areas identified on the attached maps, this permit authorizes you to cut and/or remove:

Dead down Ponderosa and pinyon pine

Dead standing Ponderosa and pinyon pine up to 12" diameter

Dead down wood is a woody tree or part of a tree lying on the ground as a result of natural mortality or because of previous legal harvesting, thinning, or other approved forest management activities.

Dead standing trees are those that have no green foliage on any branch or limb.

This permit is for the Tonto National Forest only. It does not allow cutting on other public land or on private land. Do not cut or remove wood from wilderness and experimental areas, camp and picnic grounds, restricted areas, administrative sites, ongoing commercial fuelwood or timber sales, special personal use areas, or non harvest areas identified on the attached maps. This permit allows cutting only on Pleasant Valley and Payson Ranger Districts.

Cutting or removal of Ponderosa and pinyon pine dead standing wood is permitted up to 12 inches in diameter (37 inches circumference), measured at at 4 ½ feet above the ground. No cutting of any larger standing dead tree is allowed. **Do not cut dead standing trees that have evidence of wildlife use (cavities or nests).** No cutting or removal of dead limbs from any green tree is permitted.

Please cut and scatter all **slash** (branches, knots, and other vegetative debris) to 24" in height or less. Remove slash from drainages and road ditches.

All motorized equipment must be equipped with an approved spark arrester and/or exhaust system. The permit holder may be liable for fire suppression costs, if their operations cause a fire.

You are subject to inspection. This permit is non-transferable and must be in the possession of the permittee or designated cutter while cutting or transporting firewood. By signing this permit, the permittee is consenting to inspection by any Forest Officer, any State Peace Officer, any federal law enforcement officer, or any official of the Arizona Department of Agriculture.

For current harvesting conditions, check with local ranger district offices. Vehicles must not obstruct traffic or be a safety hazard while parked along forest roads.

Within the Payson and Pleasant Valley ranger districts, off road travel is currently allowed as follows:

- Locate fuelwood before moving vehicle off route, take the most direct route to the product.
- Do not damage other vegetation in route to product location.
- Return to the designated road on the same direct path used; cover your route with slash or other available debris.
- If there is no good route, do not attempt to collect that firewood.
- Do not go off road when soils are wet or rutting may occur.

Along part of the Colcord Road (Forest Road (FR) 291), removal of dead/down firewood is allowed despite the general area being closed to firewood gathering. Specifically, within 300 feet from each shoulder of FR 291 from the Payson Ranger District boundary (near Gordon Canyon Estates) east to the junction with the Young Road (FR 512), dead/down firewood may be cut/removed.

Protect historic sites and artifacts. It is a violation to disturb, damage or destroy archeological sites. Violations can result in fines of up to \$250,000 and imprisonment for as long as two years.

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR LOAD TAG SYSTEM

Firewood cutters must physically attach a Load Tag to each ¼ cord of firewood in a location visible from the rear of the vehicle before moving the vehicle.

The tags may be nailed, taped, or stapled to a piece of wood, or have a screwdriver driven through them into a piece of wood. They must be physically attached in some manner to the load. The tags, which are brightly colored, need to be in place before departing the fuelwood gathering area, and during transportation.

Each **quarter cord tag** is numbered and corresponds with numbers on the permit. For example, if you are transporting three quarters of a cord of wood, you need to display three tags. Permittees must punch out, with a pen, hole puncher etc., the Month, Day, Day of the week, and AM/PM on the tag. Permittees are required to fill out the Removal Record on the permit in conjunction with “tagging the load.” The permit and tags are valid only during the year of issue.

HOW TO MEASURE FUELWOOD

A standard cord is a well-stacked pile, 4 ft x 4 ft x 8 ft, 128 cubic feet. To help you estimate how much wood your truck will hold, please note the following:

TRUCK BED	BED SIZE LxDxW	MAX. VOLUME (Cubic Feet)	CORD SIZE (Approx)	REQUIRED NO. OF TAGS
Mini (Loaded Cab High)	6 x 1 ½ x 4 ¾ ft. 6 x 3 x 4 ¾ ft.	37.25 80.00	1/3 2/3	1 2
Mini Longbed (Loaded Cab High)	8 x 1 ½ x 4 ¾ ft. 8 x 3 x 4 ¾ ft.	51.50 108.50	2/5 7/8	2 3
1/2 or 3/4 Ton (Loaded Cab High)	6 x 2 x 4 ½ ft. 6 x 4 x 4 ½ ft.	48.50 102.50	2/5 4/5	2 3
1/2 or 3/4 Ton Longbed (Loaded Cab High)	8 x 2 ½ x 5 ft. 8 x 4 x 5 ft.	94.50 154.50	3/4 1 1/2	3 6

