Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Mt. Hood National Forest

Christmas Tree Guidelines

Rules and Regulations

- Bring your permit, cutting map, and these guidelines when looking for a Christmas tree.
- No tree cutting allowed within 100 feet of any highway. Do not park on highways.
- Cutting is prohibited in wilderness, near recreation areas and trails, or within active timber sales. More details are provided on the cutting map.
- Know whose land you're on! Do not cut on county, state, Tribal, or private land, or areas posted "No Christmas Tree Cutting."
- When choosing your tree, ensure there is another tree growing within 12 feet.
- You can cut trees up to 15 feet tall. (For permits for larger trees, call your local ranger district.)
- Cut down the entire tree, leaving a stump no more than 6 inches tall. Remove snow from around the stump to accurately measure its height.
- Protect our natural resources and follow Leave No Trace guidelines: www.lnt.org
- A Sno-Park Permit is required to park at most Oregon Sno-Parks. More information is available online: www.tripcheck.com/Pages/Sno-Parks-Mt-Hood

Safety Recommendations

- Head out early and plan to be on your way home before sunset.
- Check road conditions before you go. Visit TripCheck.com or call 5-1-1.
- Forest roads are not plowed, and some are gated for the winter. Bring a travel kit and be prepared for emergencies. For more winter driving tips: www.oregon.gov/odot/pages/winter-driving.aspx
- Dress for the weather and carry the 10 Essentials: https://www.nps.gov/articles/10essentials.htm
- Tell someone at home where you are going and when you plan to return.
- Much of the Forest has no cell service. Bring a GPS and map and/or download a free motor vehicle use map through the Avenza Maps app on your phone.

Mt. Hood MVUMs on Avenza Maps

- Motor Vehicle Use Maps, aka MVUMs, shows the roads, trails, and areas where you can legally drive wheeled motor vehicles. Some roads are closed seasonally. All drivers are required to know and follow the regulations displayed on the MVUM when driving a motor vehicle on the Forest.
- MVUMs are available for free on the Avenza Maps app or at your local district office.
- Install the app on your smart phone to access georeferenced documents to see where you are on the map (GPS must be turned on).
- Search for "Mt. Hood NF." Download one (or all) of the three maps below.
  - Mt. Hood NF Barlow and Hood River Ranger Districts Motor Vehicle Use Map
  - Mt. Hood NF Clackamas Ranger District Motor Vehicle Use Map
  - Mt. Hood NF Zigzag Ranger District Motor Vehicle Use Map

Choosing a Tree

- Noble fir and Pacific silver fir grow above 3,200 feet elevation, making great Christmas trees as they stay green and hold their needles for a long time.
- Douglas fir and hemlock trees can be found at lower elevations. Hemlocks tend to brown and lose their needles quickly.
- Check out OSU's tree ID guide: https://treespnw.forestry.oregonstate.edu/

Learn more about cutting Christmas trees on Mt. Hood

www.fs.usda.gov/r06/mthood/permits/christmas-trees

Download the Christmas tree cutting map

https://tinyurl.com/christmastreemap

Install Avenza Maps on your smart phone

https://store.avenza.com/

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