

BEST PRACTICES

- All mushroom harvesters must follow conditions of the permit, Forest regulations, and Motor Vehicle Use Map Regulations.
- Mushrooms may be harvested anywhere on National Forest System lands unless otherwise restricted. Contact your local Forest Service office when in doubt.
- Avoid streamside & wetland areas to minimize impacts.
- Many harvest areas border private lands. Be respectful of adjacent private lands and do not enter without permission.
- Practice *Leave No Trace* ethics while enjoying your National Forests. Pick up and pack out your trash and anything else you bring with you, including cigarette butts. *Littering brings a maximum fine of \$5,000.*
- Dispose of human waste and toilet paper by burying it at least 18 inches deep and 300 feet away from any water sources or open road.
- Comply with local food storage regulations (Reference Forest Food Storage Order).
- Do not block gates, roads, or interfere with the use of trails.
- If you encounter historic artifacts in the forest, treat them with respect and leave them where you find them.
- Proper identification of mushrooms is the responsibility of the harvester. Keep in mind that many forest mushroom species are poisonous!
- Mushroom guidebooks are available to assist with identification. Your local library, county extension office, and Mycological Society are valuable sources of information.

INCIDENTAL USE

Harvest may occur on Northern Region Forest Service lands where mushroom picking is allowed, including commercial harvest areas.

No permit is required. Incidental Use allows an individual to have up to one gallon of mushrooms in their possession, with a limit of five gallons per season.

Mushrooms must be sliced in half length-wise from stem to cap, and resale is prohibited.

PERSONAL USE

Harvest may occur on Northern Region Forest Service lands where mushroom picking is allowed.

Permittee may have no more than 5 gallons in possession at one time.

Mushrooms must be sliced in half length-wise from stem to cap, and resale is prohibited.

Permits will be offered at any Forest Service Office managing mushroom activity.

PERSONAL USE Permit (Free)

A Personal Use (Free) permit allows an individual to pick up to 5 gallons (12.5 Lbs.) of mushrooms per day. A maximum of 20 gallons (50 Lbs.) can be harvested per season.

Personal Use permits are valid through September 30, 2023.

In 2023, Personal Use Mushroom permits will be issued free of charge.

Find more detailed information on-line by scanning the QR Code to the right or visiting:
<http://bit.ly/r1mushrooms>



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Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Northern Region

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2023 Northern Region Mushroom Guide



Mushrooms are considered a forest product. Various types of permits, both personal use and commercial use, may be required for collection. Please review this brochure or scan the QR code on the back for detailed information regarding Northern Region mushroom harvest opportunities and regulations.

STAYING SAFE IN BURNED AREAS

Risks to watch out for in areas that have experienced fire:

- Falling trees and limbs
- Uneven and unstable ground with holes from burned root systems
- Falling rocks
- Routes blocked by fallen trees
- Increased risk in some areas of landslides, debris flows, and flash floods

These risks are higher during high winds and during and after heavy rains and winter storms.



SCAN, LISTEN, WATCH OUT!

- Scan for overhead hazards
- Scan ahead for possible dangers such as leaning trees or loose rocks
- Listen for falling trees, limbs, and rocks
- Watch the ground for stump holes and increased stream flows
- Know when to turn around.

Northern Region National Forests and Grasslands Contact Information



fs.usda.gov/main/r1/about-region/offices

PLAN AHEAD & PREPARE!

Before you head out mushroom hunting, always:

- **Check the weather.** Avoid burned areas during high winds, and during or a few days after rains or winter storms.
- **Plan your route,** checking on conditions beforehand. **Always let someone know your plans and possible variations.**
- **Pack the essentials**



BE BEAR AWARE

The Northern Region is home to both black bears and grizzly bears, and they are awake and on the hunt for food, often with cubs in tow.

AVOID ENCOUNTERS: Be alert for fresh bear tracks or scat. Listen for animal movement and sounds. **MAKE NOISE** while you travel.

Know **how to handle an encounter.**

CARRY BEAR SPRAY and have it available and ready. Know how to use it.

FOLLOW FOOD STORAGE ORDERS that are in effect across most of the Northern Region.

For more information about bear activity, trail conditions, food storage regulations, and access, contact your local Forest Service, State, or National Park.



Pack the essentials:

- **Navigation** – map, compass, GPS, (and extra batteries)
- **Insulation** – layers of non-cotton clothing for changing conditions
- **Emergency shelter** – small tent or emergency tarp
- **First aid supplies**
- **Water** (and purification system)
- **Fire** – Lighter, matches, fire starter, dry kindling
- **Repair kit** – Duct tape or similar, special materials and tools to fix your gear
- **Nutrition** – High energy snacks and other food for the trip, plus some extra.
- **Communication** – If possible, take an emergency satellite device or other communication tool. In most places on the National Forests cell service is limited to non-existent. **Always let someone know:**
 - **Where you will park**
 - **Planned route and possible alternatives**
 - **Expected return time**
 - **Cell phone number and service provider**