



Flathead National Forest

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 22, 2004

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National Forest Christmas Tree Permits Available

Personal-use Christmas tree permits from the Flathead National Forest are available for \$3 each from Forest Service offices in Kalispell, Hungry Horse, Bigfork and Whitefish. Each permit is valid for one tree and there is a maximum of two permits per household. Commercial permits are not available.

Please select a tree that is three to four inches in diameter or less at the stump. The stump should be cut as close to the ground as possible, 8" or shorter. Do not cut the top of a tree or leave live limbs attached to the stump, they will not grow into a tree and only take growing space from the remaining trees in the area. Choose a tree that is growing with other trees in a cluster. The forest environment benefits by thinning the clusters, allowing the remaining trees to grow bigger and provide for a healthier forest. Please do not cut any trees in campgrounds or developed recreation areas.

Before transporting your tree, please fasten the permit around the tree trunk. The Christmas tree permit is only for National Forest system lands. There are many other privately owned and industry owned lands in the Flathead Valley area that may not allow Christmas tree cutting so please check the ownership of the land before you cut a Christmas tree.

Please drive safely and be alert for winter driving conditions. For more information about cutting Christmas trees on the Flathead National Forest, please contact a local Forest Service Office:

Supervisor's Office	758-5208
Hungry Horse/Glacier View and Spotted Bear District	387-3800
Swan Lake District	837-7500
Tally Lake District	863-5400

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