
Gallatin National Forest News Release



For Immediate Release
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Gallatin National Forest Christmas Tree Permits Now Available

Bozeman, MT... For many people in local communities, cutting your own Christmas tree is an enjoyable family tradition. Permits for cutting a Christmas tree on the Gallatin National Forest are now being sold at Forest Service Ranger District offices in Big Timber, Livingston, Gardiner, Bozeman, and West Yellowstone. Permits are also available at these local businesses:

- Owenhouse Ace Hardware (bicycle shop) in Bozeman
- Lee & Dad's Grocery in Belgrade
- Gateway Exxon in Gallatin Gateway
- Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply in Bozeman

The cost of a national forest Christmas tree permit is \$5, with a limit of **three** permits per household. A permit can also be purchased for gathering boughs. Permits, maps, forest road access updates, and tree species identification guides are available at the ranger district offices.

People with a permit may cut a Christmas tree anywhere on the Gallatin National Forest except in campgrounds, trailheads, wilderness areas, areas where trees have been planted (the trees are all about the same size), and administrative sites. Also, no tree cutting is allowed within 50 feet of streams or within 100 feet of roads.

Guidelines for cutting a Christmas tree on the Gallatin National Forest:

- Trees help protect watersheds, provide habitat for wildlife, and contribute to beautiful scenery. Keep these values in mind when selecting a tree.
- Limit your selection to trees less than 12 feet tall.
- Cut your tree as close to the ground as possible and below the lowest live limb. A remaining stump height of 6 inches is ideal.
- After cutting your tree, attach the purchased permit to a lower limb near the trunk for transporting home.
- "Topping" trees, or cutting the top off trees, deforms any future growth and leaves a visual eyesore. Take the entire tree or choose another one.



10 East Babcock Ave., PO Box 130, Bozeman, MT 59771
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/gallatin>

Outlets for Gallatin National Forest Christmas tree permits:

Big Timber Ranger District 225 Big Timber Loop Road Big Timber, MT 59011 (406) 932-5155	Owenhouse Ace Hardware (Bike Shop) 25 S. Black Ave. Bozeman, MT (406) 587-5404
Livingston Ranger District 5242 Hwy. 89 South Livingston, MT 59047 (406) 222-1892	Gateway Exxon Market Gallatin Gateway, MT (406) 763-4463
Gardiner Ranger District Hwy. 89 South Gardiner, MT 59030 (406) 848-7375	Lee & Dad's Grocery 205 West Madison Ave. Belgrade, MT (406) 388-4116
Bozeman Ranger District 3710 Fallon St., Suite C Bozeman, MT 59718 (406) 522-2520	Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply 2275 N 7 th Ave. Bozeman, MT (406) 586-8466
Hebgen Lake Ranger District 331 US Highway 191 North West Yellowstone, MT 59758 (406) 823-6961	

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