

Fort McCoy Regulation 200-4

Directorate of Public Works

Firewood Cutting

Department of the Army
Headquarters Fort McCoy
Fort McCoy, WI
1 September 2008

UNCLASSIFIED

SUMMARY of CHANGE

Regulation 200-4

Firewood Cutting

This revision

- ❑ Prohibits bringing off-road vehicles (not to include 4X4 pickup trucks) or equipment onto Fort McCoy to assist with firewood collecting.
- ❑ Moves the program responsibility from the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security to the Directorate of Public Works.
- ❑ Includes the Biological and Cultural Resources Team changing into the Natural Resources Branch.
- ❑ Incorporates changes in the Natural Resources Branch office location.
- ❑ Increases the price of a daily permit from \$5.00 to \$10.00. The price for a monthly permit stays at \$50.00.
- ❑ The firewood collecting season was changed to end on 15 April instead of ending on 1 May.

Revision May 2006

- ❑ Changed the open season to start with 1 September instead of the first working day in September. This is to take into account the ability to purchase permits in advance of cutting.
- ❑ The minimum age to purchase a permit is raised to 18 to reflect the recommended age required to use a chainsaw.
- ❑ Incorporates changes in the Biological and Cultural Resources Team office location.
- ❑ Specifies the permit is nontransferable and nonrefundable.
- ❑ Permits valid for a calendar month are available. This allows firewood cutters the ability to cut often without having to buy a permit each day. Calendar month is defined as valid for the month listed on the permit. It does not have to be a full 30 days.
- ❑ Daily permits are further defined as valid for the calendar day the permit is dated.
- ❑ Includes the prohibition of storing firewood on Fort McCoy property. All firewood cut by the permit holder must be removed from Fort McCoy property or the firewood will be considered abandoned, i.e., don't cut more firewood than can be hauled out in a load.
- ❑ Define permit holder as the person who purchased the permit and is allowed one vehicle with or without a trailer and helpers to cut, split, and/or load the firewood while in the presence of the permit holder. Permit holders are highly encouraged to have helpers in case of accidents or other emergencies. In summary; "One permit equals one vehicle".
- ❑ Encourages the use of personal protective equipment while cutting firewood.
- ❑ Included phone numbers of the Fire Department and Law Enforcement Branch so cutters can call from the field with cell phones.

FIREWOOD CUTTING

HISTORY. This is the third publishing of the firewood regulations in this format and under the 200 series. It was previously published on 15 May 2006.

SUMMARY. This regulation sets forth the rules and restrictions for cutting firewood and gathering wood chips on Fort McCoy.

APPLICABILITY. This regulation applies to all persons, military and civilian, who cut firewood or gather wood chips on Fort McCoy. All seasons, dates, and restrictions are subject to change by Fort McCoy authorities.

PROPONENT EXCEPTION AUTHORITY. The proponent of this regulation is the Directorate Public Works (DPW), Environmental Division, Natural Resources Branch (NRB). The proponent has the authority to approve exceptions to this regulation that are consistent with controlling law and regulation.

ARMY MANAGEMENT CONTROL PROCESS. Following a review of guidance in AR 11-2, it is determined that this regulation does not contain management control provisions.

SUPPLEMENTATION. Supplementation of this regulation is prohibited without the prior approval of the Directorate of Public Works, Environmental Division, Natural Resources Branch.

SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS. Users are invited to send comments, suggested improvements, or updates on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and blank forms). Address comments to DPW (IMNE-MCY-PWEN), 2171 South 8th Ave, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin 54656-5136. Interim changes to this regulation are not official unless they are authenticated by the Publications Manager, Directorate of Human Resources/Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DHR/DFMWR).

MOBILIZATION STATUS. This regulation remains in effect without change during mobilization or national emergency.



DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT. Electronic Media.

By Order of:

DAVID E. CHESSER
Colonel, US Army
Commanding

OFFICIAL:

E-Signed by Ron Weiss
VERIFY authenticity with ApproveIt



RONALD R. WEISS
Adjutant, Publications Manager

SUPERSESION: This regulation supersedes 200-4, 15 May 2006.

CONTENTS

Chapter 1

Introduction, page 1

Purpose 1-1, page 1

Applicability 1-2, page 1

Regulation 1-3, page 1

Violations 1-4, page 2

Check-In and Check-Out 1-5, page 2

Cutters'/Collectors' Responsibilities 1-6, page 2

Fort McCoy's Responsibilities 1-7, Page 3

Procedures 1-8, page 3

Chapter 1 Introduction

1-1. Purpose

This regulation sets forth laws and restrictions for wood cutting/wood chip collecting on Fort McCoy.

1-2. Applicability

This regulation applies to all persons, military and civilian, who cut firewood or collect wood chips on Fort McCoy. All seasons, dates, and restrictions are subject to change by Fort McCoy authorities.

1-3. Regulation.

a. Dates – Hours.

(1) The Fort McCoy firewood/wood chip season shall be open from 1 January through 15 April and 1 September through 31 December each year except during the annual Gun Deer season in the training areas. The season will be open all year in the cantonment area or in other specially designated areas.

(2) Cutting, hauling, and collecting will be conducted during daylight only. **Civilian vehicles must adhere to the posted Black Out Drive requirements.**

(3) The Commander may suspend all hauling operations during the period of spring thaw whenever excessive damage will occur to road surfaces, and may cease all cutting and hauling operations during serious fire hazard periods or when military activities create a safety hazard or mission disruption potential.

b. Cutting Permits. Permits cost \$10.00 per calendar day and \$50.00 per calendar month and may be purchased by any person 18 years of age and over except those barred from Fort McCoy or are under suspension for violating any Fort McCoy Natural Resource Regulation. The calendar day is defined as the date listed on the permit. Calendar month is defined as the month listed on the permit. It may be shorter than 30 days. **Checks will not be accepted.** Permits must be purchased by the permit holder (or spouse) at Permit Sales at 2168 South 8th Avenue, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (phone number; 608-388-3337/5584) and will authorize firewood cutting or wood chip collecting for the permit holder only. The permit holder is allowed one vehicle with or without a trailer and helpers to cut, split, and/or load the firewood while in the presence of the permit holder. Permit holders are highly encouraged to have helpers in case of accidents or other emergencies. Permits must be in possession of the permit holder when cutting/collecting and/or traveling on Fort McCoy property. Helpers may have a separate vehicle for personal transportation but are not allowed to load firewood or wood chips into that vehicle and the helpers are not allowed to cut or split wood without the permit holder present. Cutters are authorized to cut and remove wood only on the day or during the month authorized by the permit. Permits may be purchased in advance of the date requested. **Fort McCoy firewood permits are nontransferable and nonrefundable.**

c. Cutting Locations and Limits. Firewood will be cut, and wood chips collected in authorized areas only. Information concerning these areas will be available where the permit is purchased. Paint marked trees will not be cut unless authorized in writing by the post forester. **A load is limited to vehicles smaller than a semi-tractor and trailer.** The number of loads per day is limited to one vehicle (with or without a trailer) and as many loads that can be hauled on the specified day. Permit holders and their helpers are prohibited from bringing off-road vehicles (not to include state licensed 4X4 pickup trucks) and equipment onto Fort McCoy for the purpose of collecting firewood or wood chips. This equipment includes, but is not limited to; tracked and wheeled tractors, bobcat loaders, all-terrain vehicles, and firewood splitters. Permit holders are prohibited from storing firewood on Fort McCoy property. All firewood cut by the permit holder must be removed from Fort McCoy property or the firewood will be considered abandoned, i.e. don't cut more firewood than can be hauled out in a load.

d. Wood to be cut or collected. Only standing dead trees and dead trees lying on the ground will be cut. Only down trees may be cut in the Cantonment area. However, special areas of live trees may be authorized in writing by the post forester. The cutting of unauthorized live trees or trees dead or live outside

the designated area, will constitute a violation. Areas of commercial firewood or timber sales are off limits to firewood permit holders. This wood is the property of a person or corporation and any removal constitutes theft. Only wood chips piled from debris grinding operations may be collected.

1-4. Violations

a. Penalties. Wisconsin State Timber Trespass Laws generally apply to Fort McCoy through the operation of 10 U.S.C. 2671 and 18 U.S.C. 13. Whoever is guilty of an act or omission within the boundaries of the Fort McCoy military reservation, which would be punishable if committed within the jurisdiction of the State of Wisconsin, is guilty of like offense. Therefore, violations of such laws and violations of this regulation may result in revocation of the Fort McCoy firewood permit, criminal prosecution in Federal Court, being barred from Fort McCoy, immediate removal from the Installation, loss of any cut wood on the ground or in the act of transport, and/or disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice for persons subject thereto.

b. Vehicle Search. Owners or operators of motor vehicles entering Fort McCoy do thereby consent to the search of the motor vehicle without requirements of a search warrant.

c. Any violation of this regulation will immediately cancel any remaining authority for firewood cutting/wood chip collecting and/or removal. Violations will also suspend/revoke all privileges to include hunting, fishing, trapping, and firewood cutting/wood chip collecting for one year. The U.S. government will not accept liability for damages or injuries to persons or property, real or personal, resulting from this operation. Fort McCoy will be indemnified for any damage due to real or personal property as result of any act or omission in cutting or hauling firewood. Neither the permit nor any interest therein shall be assigned or transferred by the permit holder to any other party (section 3737, Revised Statutes, as amended by 41 U.S.C. 15).

1-5. Check-In and Check-Out

There are no check-in or check-out procedures required. Vehicles for cutting in the cantonment area will have to follow the vehicle registration rules required at the main gate.

1-6. Cutters'/Collectors' Responsibilities

a. Activity Information Card. All permit holders are required to display a 5x8 information card on the passenger's side of the windshield with the following information: Permit holder's full name, Activity (fire wood cutting, wood chip collecting), and emergency contact phone number. Officers from the Law Enforcement Branch will be routinely patrolling the cutting/collecting areas.

b. Game Line. All cutters/collectors are expected to call the **GAME LINE, (608) 388-4263**, to check if the cutting/collecting area is closed to public use because of training activities.

c. Safety. Chainsaw operation and felling dead trees is an inherently dangerous activity. All firewood cutters are highly encouraged to use personal protective equipment which includes; hardhat, eye protection, hearing protection, chainsaw chaps or pants, steel-toe boots, and leather gloves. Firewood cutters are also encouraged to have a helper assist with all aspects of firewood cutting and hauling. Helpers cannot use a chainsaw on Fort McCoy unless they are 18 years old or older.

d. Reporting information. Cutters/collectors are required to notify the (1) Installation Fire Station, (608) 388-2508, about uncontrolled fires on or off the Installation and (2) the Law Enforcement Branch, (608) 388-2266, about locations of unexploded munitions, shells, flares, grenades and suspicious looking objects and any observed violations of federal, state or post regulations or laws.

e. Conduct. All cutters/collectors are expected to display proper conduct and willingly cooperate with military officials, other cutters/collectors and Fort McCoy officials conducting forest management operations.

f. Miscellaneous. All persons are warned that, within the boundaries of Fort McCoy it is unlawful to:

- (1) Pick up, disturb, or carry off government equipment, ordnance, munitions, or parts of the same;
- (2) Litter, this includes placing/using flagging tape;
- (3) Start fires (charcoal fires in designated areas are allowed);
- (4) Camp overnight except at the Pine View Recreation Area.

g. Archaeological Resources. It is illegal to dig, excavate, disturb the ground, or collect archaeological artifacts on Fort McCoy. Violators are subject to criminal penalties involving fines or imprisonment or both and civil fines and forfeiture of vehicles and equipment used in connection with a violation. Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (16 USC 470, and 36 CFR 261.9). Violators will be prosecuted.

1-7. Fort McCoy's Responsibilities

The DPW is responsible for the overall program. The NRB is responsible for the day-to-day office and field operations and the implementation of the procedures as stated. The Law Enforcement Branch, Protective Services Division, is responsible to patrol the firewood cutting areas and enforce this regulation.

1-8. Procedures

a. Firewood (Sales Operation). The Permit Sales Clerk and the alternates (Forester, Forestry Technician and Fish and Wildlife Collections Officer) will be assigned on official orders from the Fort McCoy Adjutant to sell firewood permits. Maps showing locations and a copy of the Fort McCoy Regulation will be provided to all permit holders. Copies of permits sold will be maintained by number sequence and filed in a locked safe. All monies will be accounted for daily and secured at all times. Cash receipts will be turned in to the Fort McCoy Credit Union who will forward the receipts to the Finance and Accounting Office servicing Fort McCoy. The turn-in will occur whenever the total amount exceeds \$200 and on the last day of the month.

b. Field Procedures. Locations selected by NRB for firewood will be cleared with the Training Officer and Range Safety prior to cutting. The Fort McCoy Forester will provide maps, cutting details and wood chip collecting areas to Law Enforcement Branch. Directional signs may be installed by NRB to assist cutters in locating firewood and wood chip areas when necessary. Location boundaries will consist of easily identified natural features whenever possible.