

NEWS

United States
Department of
Agriculture

BOISE NATIONAL FOREST



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 1, 2019

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/boise>

Information Contact:
Payette National Forest
208-634-0400 or
Boise National Forest
208-373-4007

Boise and Payette National Forests begin Christmas tree permit sales Nov. 23

Boise, Idaho November 1, 2019 --The Boise and Payette National Forest (NF) **vendors** will begin selling Christmas tree permits Saturday, **Nov. 23**. On Monday, **Nov. 25**, permits will be available at **Boise and Payette NF District Offices and the Interagency Visitor's Information Center** located at 1387 South Vinnell Way in Boise, 83709. All tree permits are valid to Dec. 25.

Each permit allows one tree to be cut, with a limit of three permits per family. For both Forests, the cost of a permit for one tree is \$10. The maximum height of a permitted tree is 12 feet. Permits are valid on both the Payette and Boise NFs.

Forest offices will provide information about where a Christmas tree may be harvested, restrictions and helpful tips. A Christmas tree permit is for personal use only and the use of permits for commercial use is prohibited. Permits are not refundable for any reason. Purchaser must be at least 18 years in age.

In coordination with the "Every Kid Outdoors" program, fourth-graders who are participating in the program can receive a free Christmas tree Permit. The U.S. Forest Service is among several federal agencies that support the Every Kid Outdoors initiative which is a nationwide call to action to build the next generation of outdoor enthusiasts. The initiative provides a free pass to all fourth-grade students by going to: <https://everykidoutdoors.gov/index.htm>. Complete the voucher, print it and bring it to the Forest Service office.

To receive a free Christmas tree permit, the fourth-grader and a parent must go to a Forest Service office in person with the "voucher" they received from the online website at:

<https://everykidoutdoors.gov/index.htm>

Commercial vendors will not be issuing a free Christmas tree permit to participants of the Every Kid Outdoors program, and free Christmas tree permits cannot be sent through the mail or electronically.

Participation in the Every Kid Outdoors program also offers benefits at National Parks and on other public lands and facilities across the United States.

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“Harvesting a Christmas tree is a fun adventure and often a traditional family event,” said Ruth Rieper, Boise NF Tree Coordinator. “Please review the Christmas tree brochure and map for optimal areas.”

If an unusually heavy snowfall occurs in southwest Idaho, and forest roads become a safety concern for the public, some areas may be closed early to Christmas tree gathering. Forest roads are not plowed. Call ahead and check websites for road conditions before heading out. Please do not block private or county roadways at any time. For further information call the Boise NF at: 208-373-4007 and check out our website for updates and closures at:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/boise/alerts-notice>.

To provide for family safety, officials advise a few simple guidelines:

- ✓ Use the brochure with instructions provided.
- ✓ Practice winter survival and driving techniques.
- ✓ Bring the right tools, such as a saw and a shovel, so the tree can be cut to within 6” of the ground’s surface.
- ✓ Take along emergency equipment, plenty of food and water, and try to use a 4-wheel drive vehicle if you are planning to travel in snow country.
- ✓ Always inform neighbors and family friends of the route you intend to take, include a map of your destination, and the time that you plan to be gone.
- ✓ Be prepared for the possibility of a long hike or snowmobile ride while searching for the perfect tree.
- ✓ According to Idaho state law, any vehicle carrying a load that extends more than 4 feet past the tailgate, must display a red or florescent orange flag tied on the end of the load to caution other drivers.

(See list of offices and vendors next pages)

Boise National Forest Offices

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/boise>

Interagency Visitor Information Center 208-373-4007
Sells permits for the Payette and Boise National Forests

1387 South Vinnell Way

(BLM State Office - West of Walmart on Overland Road, Boise)

Hours: M-F 7:45-4:30 p.m. (Vendors and offices are closed Thanksgiving Day)

The Idaho City Ranger District 208-392-6681

3833 Highway 21

Idaho City, ID

Hours: M-F 8 a.m. - 4:30p.m

Idaho City may or may not be open on weekends. Please call ahead.

Lowman Ranger District 208-259-3361

7359 Highway 21

Lowman, ID 83637

Hours: M-F 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Emmett Ranger District 208-365-7000

1857 Highway 16, Suite A

Emmett, ID 83617

Hours: M-F 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Cascade Ranger District 208-382-7400

540 North Main Street

Cascade, ID 83611

Hours: M-F 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Mountain Home Ranger District 208-587-7961

3080 Industrial Way

Mountain Home, ID 83647

Hours: M-F 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Boise National Forest Vendors

Idaho City Grocery (208) 392-4426

3868 Highway 21

Idaho City, ID 83631 *Open: Everyday, 7:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.*

Mon-Thursday, - Open: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Fri-Sun, 8 a.m. -9 p.m.

Tom's Service/Sinclair (208) 392-4900

243 State Highway 21

Idaho City, ID 83631

Open: Everyday, 5 a.m. -11 p.m.

Donna's Place (208) 392-9777

200 Main Street

Idaho City, ID 83631

Open: Everyday, 8 a.m.-10 p.m.

Donna's Place (208) 392-9666

110 E Granite Street

Placerville, ID 83666

Open: Everyday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

East Cleveland Beverage (208) 459-6442

2518 E Cleveland

Caldwell, ID 83605

Open: Everyday, 6 a.m. - 10 p.m.

B & W Fuels (208) 365-2291

1900 N. Washington

Emmett, ID 83617

Open: Sun - Thursday, 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Fri-Sat, 6 a.m. -10 p.m.

D & B Supply (208) 963-7035

111 State Highway 16

Emmett, ID 83617

Open: Mon - Sat, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Sunday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Valley View Chevron (208) 793-4321

459 State Highway 55

Horseshoe Bend, ID 83629

Open: Everyday, 5:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Ray's Corner Market (208) 793-2391

445 State Highway 55

Horseshoe Bend, ID 83629

Open: Sun-Sat, 6 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Garden Valley Chevron (208) 462-3869

P.O. Box 447

Garden Valley, ID 83622

Beginning Nov.21 - open: Everyday - 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Payette National Forest Offices

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/payette>

All Payette National Forest offices are open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information contact any of the District Offices. (Vendors and offices closed on Thanksgiving)

Council Ranger District Office

2092 Highway 95, Council, ID
208-253-0100

New Meadows Ranger District Office

3674 Highway 95, New Meadows, ID
208-347-0300

Weiser Ranger District Office

851 E Ninth St., Weiser, ID
208-549-4200

McCall Ranger District Office

102 West Lake St., McCall, ID
208-634-0400

Payette NF Supervisor's Office

500 N. Mission St., Bldg. 2
208-634-0700

Payette National Forest Vendors

Weiser: Ridley's Food and Drug (208) 549-1332

1401 E 6th St., Weiser, ID
Open: Everyday 7 a.m. – 11 p.m.

Weiser Farmer's Supply Cooperative (208) 549-0654

622 E Commercial St., Weiser, ID
Open: Everyday 5 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Cambridge: Jay's Sinclair (208) 257-5000

Corner of Hwy 95 and Hwy 71, Cambridge, ID
Open: Everyday 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Council: Farmer's Supply Co-op (208) 253-4266

2030 N. Highway 95, Council, ID
Open: Everyday 6 a.m. – 10 p.m.

McCall: Albertsons (208) 634-8166

132 E. Lake Street, McCall, ID
Open: Everyday 6:30 a.m. -11 p.m.

New Meadows: C & M Lumber (208) 347-3648

3625 Walker Ln, New Meadows, ID
Open: Mon – Sat 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

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