

## PERMITS AND FEES

On the Helena National Forest, a **FREE PERSONAL USE permit** allows you to harvest up to 5 gallons of mushrooms per day with a 20 gallon limit for the season.

Personal use permits are required for all harvesters over 12 years old.

Resale is prohibited.

Permits are not transferable across forest boundaries.

### **WHILE ENJOYING THE FOREST REMEMBER...**

Beware of falling snags and stump holes in burned areas.

Off-road or cross-country travel with any type wheeled vehicle is prohibited.

Motorized or mechanized equipment is not allowed in designated wilderness areas.

Don't block roads, gates or trails.

Pack-it in, pack-it out.

Human waste must be disposed of in a hole at least 18" deep and 300' away from water or open roads.

Discharging firearms in campsites is prohibited.

## **KNOW YOUR MUSHROOMS**

**Many mushrooms are poisonous!**

Properly identifying mushrooms and determining whether they are edible is your responsibility.



Guidebooks can help you identify mushrooms. Several field guides and keys are available at local bookstores. Also libraries, county extension office and mycological societies are good sources of information. The Western Montana Mycological Association has a web site that may help: [www.fungaljungal.org](http://www.fungaljungal.org)

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Rules about camping and recreational harvesting will be different on other National Forests. Be sure you know the regulations affecting the area where you intend to collect.

Mushrooms must be cut at ground level to reduce impacts to the fungus. Raking, digging and other ground disturbances are not allowed. Please follow the rule of thumb (collect no mushrooms smaller than an average adult thumb).

Mushrooms must be cut in half lengthwise at the time of collection

Also, remember the boundary between private land adjacent to public (Forest Service) land may not be well marked. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to identify ownership boundaries.

## **FOREST OFFICES**

Free personal use permits and additional information are available at:

**Helena National Forest**  
2880 Skyway Drive, Helena, MT 59602  
(406) 449-5201

**Helena Ranger District**  
2001 Poplar, Helena, MT 59601  
(406) 449-5490

**Townsend Ranger District**  
415 South Front, Townsend, MT 59644  
(406) 266-3425

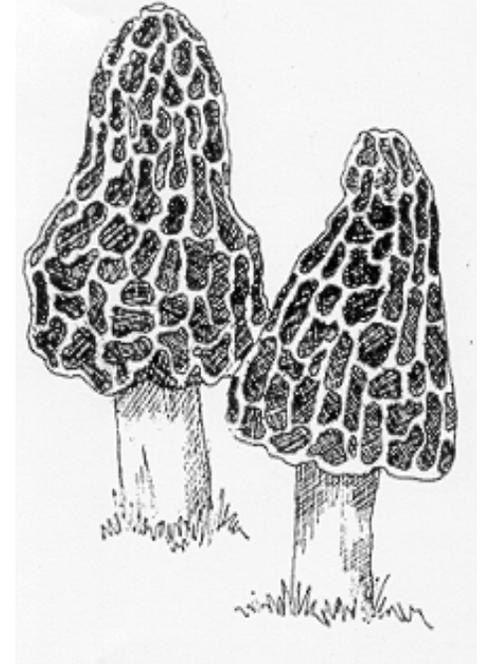
**Lincoln Ranger District**  
1569 Hwy 200, Lincoln, MT 59639  
(406) 362-4265

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# **MUSHROOM GUIDE**

**HELENA NATIONAL FOREST**

**2008**



The 2007 summer wildfires could have a dramatic effect on the population of mushrooms in burned areas across the National Forests of the Northern Region in Montana and northern Idaho.

This guide explains the Helena National Forest's mushroom policy and gives some general information about mushrooms.



United States Department of  
Agriculture  
Forest Service  
Helena National Forest

