

Holiday Greenery



SUPERIOR NATIONAL FOREST

HEADQUARTERS

DULUTH, MN



Christmas Trees & Balsam Boughs

utting your own Christmas tree can be a festive outing to begin the holiday season. The ritual of hiking through the woods with your family and choosing your personal tree from among the millions of spruce, fir, and pine can greatly enrich a holiday season. Please follow the rules below while choosing your Christmas tree. See your permit for additional rules.



A permit to cut one Christmas tree on Forest Service land may be purchased for \$5.00 at any Forest Service office. Some restrictions are as follows:



- ✦ Make sure you are on National Forest land, but not within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Maps can be viewed or purchased at Forest Service offices.
- ✦ Choose cutting areas away from plantations, developed recreation or administration sites, and Research Natural Areas.
- ✦ Walk well off the road side to select your tree.
- ✦ Select a tree the correct size for your home. Do not cut the top off of a taller tree. The maximum stump height is 12 inches.
- ✦ There is a two permit limit for each household per year.

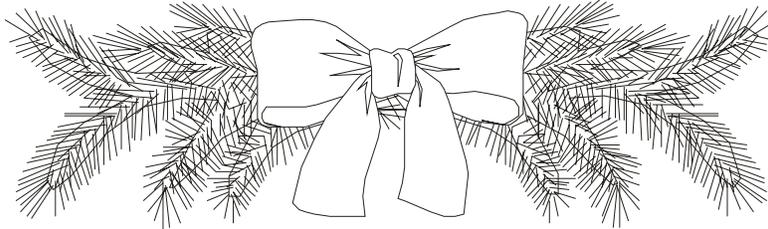
Using an OHV or Snowmobile on the National Forest

Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs), including ATVs, dirt bikes, etc. must travel on roads and trails designated for this use. OHVs are not allowed to travel cross-country on national forest lands within the Superior National Forest. However, snowmobiles may be used cross-country in most areas as well as on designated trails and unplowed roads with a 4 inch snow cover. Check with the office issuing your holiday greens permit for more specifics regarding use of OHVs and any other restrictions in the area you plan to visit.

Superior National Forest - Balsam Boughs



Gathering balsam boughs to make wreaths is becoming more popular each year. To protect the balsam fir trees on the Superior National Forest, bough gathering permits that specify where and how to cut boughs are issued by the various Forest Service offices in Aurora, Cook, Ely, Grand Marais and Tofte. Permits are required for personal or commercial use.



All bough cutting parties must have a permit. Parties can have up to 5 pickers listed. If you are cutting boughs for personal (non-commercial) use, you may purchase a permit for \$20 and cut enough boughs for 5 wreaths. If you are picking commercially to supply commercial manufacturers, there is a minimum permit fee of \$50 for two tons. Additional tons may be harvested at \$25.00 per ton. See additional rules on your permit.

- ✦ Make sure you are on National Forest land, but not within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Maps can be purchased at Forest Service offices.
- ✦ Walk at least 50 feet off the roadside, trail, lake, or recreation area before selecting the trees from which to harvest.
- ✦ Harvest boughs from trees that are greater than 7 feet high.
- ✦ Never fell trees to harvest boughs. You may only harvest branches from the lower half of the tree. Leave a portion of each pruned branch for regeneration.
- ✦ Harvested branches should have ends no larger in diameter than a pencil. As you harvest along the branch, leave part of the branch for growth and regeneration. Cutting at a fork will leave one side of the fork for regeneration.
- ✦ Keep your permit with you while harvesting boughs.
- ✦ Harvesting of Princess Pine is not allowed on the Superior National Forest.

For more information, go to www.fs.fed.us/r9/superior on the web or contact:

Superior National Forest Headquarters

8901 Grand Avenue Place
Duluth, MN 55808
(218) 626-4300
r9_superior_NF@fs.fed.us

Gunflint

Ranger District
2020 W. Hwy 61
Grand Marais, MN
55604
(218) 387-1750
gunflint@fs.fed.us

Tofte

Ranger District
North Hwy 61
P.O. Box 2159
Tofte, MN 55615
(218) 663-8060
tofte@fs.fed.us

Kawishiwi

Ranger District
1393 Hwy 169
Ely, MN 55731
(218) 365-7600
kawishiwi@fs.fed.us

LaCroix

Ranger District
320 Hwy 53 North
Cook, MN 55723
(218) 666-0020
lacroix@fs.fed.us

Laurentian

Ranger District
318 Forestry Road
Aurora, MN 55705
(218) 229-8800
laurentian@fs.fed.us

