

Christmas Tree Cutting Permits

Permits for cutting Christmas trees on Army-managed lands are now available
Until December 25

For more information go online

<https://usartrak.isportsman.net/Christmas%20Tree%20Cutting.aspxall>

To access Army land for recreation, everyone over 16 years of age must obtain a Recreation Access Permit, available online at

<https://usartrak.isportsman.net/>

Christmas Tree cutting is permitted in designated areas on Main Post, the entire Yukon Training Area, and Donnelly East Training Area 501



Have a Safe Holiday

Selection and Care of Christmas Trees

- Once you have returned safely home with your Christmas tree, its continued freshness depends upon the type of care you provide.
- The tree should have a fresh cut across the bottom, about 1 inch above the old base. This removes any clogged wood that may not readily absorb water. The tree should be placed in a stand with a large reservoir of water. Depending upon the size, species, and location of the tree, it may absorb a gallon of water in the first day, so it should be checked frequently and re-watered as necessary. Although some people advocate placing various substances in the water to preserve freshness, we recommend that consumers simply keep the tree well-watered with pure tap water. As long as the tree is able to absorb and transpire water, it is reasonably fire-resistant.
- It is important that the tree always be kept watered and not allowed to dry out. If the tree does become dried out, it may not be able to adequately absorb moisture once it is re-watered, and it will shed its needles prematurely. Taking the tree down and cutting about a 1-inch slice off the bottom of the trunk, then replacing the tree in the stand and re-watering, will remedy this problem. Although inconvenient, it is the only way to prevent early needle loss. Overall, a good rule of thumb is to treat a green Christmas tree just like a fresh bouquet of cut flowers.
- The Christmas tree should be located in a safe place, preferably near a wall or corner where it is not likely to be knocked over. Keeping the tree away from heat sources such as hot air ducts, wood stoves, fireplaces, etc., will help to preserve freshness and lessen fire danger. Similarly, light cords and connections used in decorating the tree should be in good working condition. Lights should always be turned off at bedtime or when leaving for an extended period of time.
- Fresh, well-watered Christmas trees do not present a fire hazard. Trees that are dried out, however, do. In public buildings it is often advisable to spray the trees with a fire retardant. In fact, in many locations this is necessary for insurance purposes. In the home, however, the best fire retardant is to keep the tree supplied with plenty of water.