
INFORMATION BULLETIN

For Immediate Release
2006FOR0183-001465
Dec. 5, 2006

Ministry of Forests and Range

CHRISTMAS TREE CUTTING PERMITS AVAILABLE

VICTORIA – British Columbians interested in cutting their own Christmas tree should contact FrontCounter BC or their local forest district office to obtain local requirements and a permit, or consider visiting a “U-Cut” or tree farm.

Free use permits for cutting a tree on Crown land are available from some forest district offices, though cut regulations vary by district, depending on the area’s population, forest size, access and conditions. No permits will be issued in the Lower Mainland or Victoria due to population density and tree demand.

The Province’s Christmas tree permit website at www.for.gov.bc.ca/mof/xmastrees.htm provides links to online Christmas tree permits, local forest district offices, FrontCounter BC, and a list of tree farms and “U-Cuts” around the province.

Local forest district offices can provide details of approved local harvest sites. Permits specify personal use, and are valid in designated areas only – selling a tree cut under a Christmas tree permit or cutting in an unauthorized area is illegal.

When cutting a Christmas tree, keep the following tips in mind:

- Leave home prepared. Bring ropes, gloves, tools, tire chains, a first aid kit, a mobile phone and warm clothing.
- Drive carefully. Be prepared for logging trucks.
- Make sure you have found the tree you will use before cutting to avoid wasting forest resources. Some permits specify only one tree can be cut.
- Choose a tree that can be cut near the base and is easy to transport. Wasted tree remains left in the forest form a summer fire hazard.
- Clean up and remove all debris associated with your activity.

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Media Jennifer McLarty
contact: Public Affairs Officer
 250 387-4592

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