



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES **DIVISION OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION**

CHRISTMAS TREE CUTTING IN THE FAIRBANKS AREA

The holidays are approaching, and Alaskans are starting to decorate for the festive season. For many, the tree can be a focal point of holiday decorations. Several retailers sell Christmas trees, however, there are some folks who prefer to venture out to select and cut their own tree. If you are one of those people, the Alaska Division of Forestry & Fire Protection provides for this holiday tradition.

Cutting Christmas trees on unrestricted state lands in the Fairbanks area is allowed with some stipulations. Cutting of trees is prohibited in state parks and Department of Transportation (DOT) rights-of-way. It is also prohibited on Alaska Native lands and other private property. It is important to properly identify land ownership where you intend to cut your tree. See the maps below for more detailed tree cutting areas. If you have any questions regarding land ownership, consult the Division of Forestry & Fire Protection Area office in Fairbanks at 907-451-2614.

No permit or fee is required to cut a tree. Trees must be no more than 15 feet tall and only one tree per household is allowed. Trees should be cut as low to the ground as possible. Christmas trees cut on state land are for personal use only and may not be sold. Please do not litter and be courteous to other tree cutters and/or residents who live in the area.

Keep in mind, the Division of Forestry & Fire Protection does not maintain forest roads. Anyone traveling on forest roads should have appropriate gear and equipment in the event they become stuck. This includes tire chains, a shovel, tow strap and warm clothing.

For more information, contact the Alaska Division of Forestry & Fire Protection, Fairbanks Area Office at 907-451-2614 or visit the DNR Public Information Center at 3700 Airport Way.

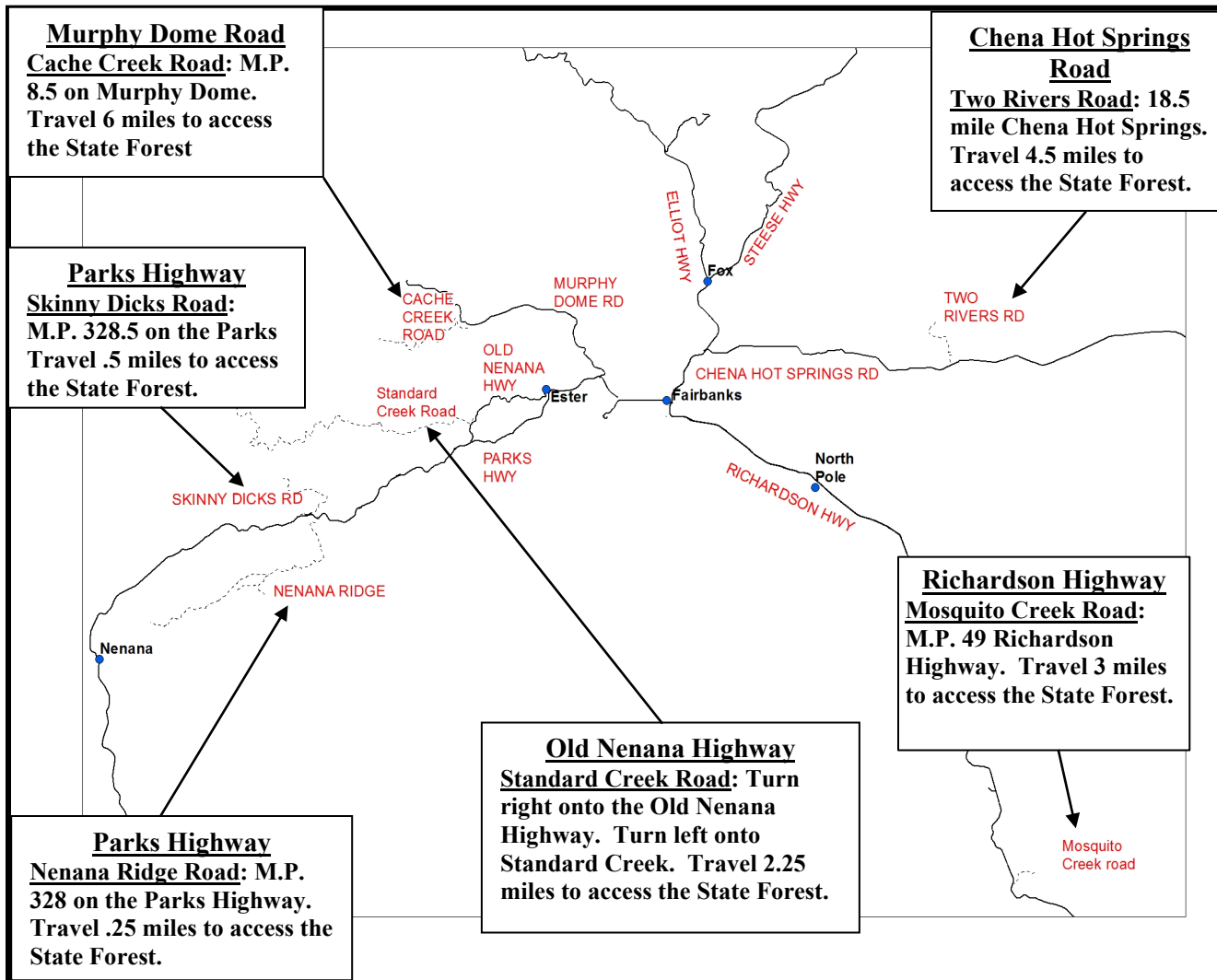
HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY!

Tanana Valley State Forest Road System

Logging roads cross private property, lands owned by the Fairbanks-Northstar Borough, and others.

Only cut trees on State Forest lands.

Logging trucks are common – yield the right-of-way.



No Christmas Tree cutting along Bonanza Creek Road, Zasada Road, and Rosie Creek Road or in tree plantations. These logging roads are not open for Christmas tree cutting due to complex land ownership and road conditions.

Conditions for Cutting Christmas Trees

1. Properly identify land ownership, including power line right of ways. Make sure you are within the Tanana Valley State Forest.
2. No cutting in the Bonanza Creek Experimental Forest, Zasada Road or Rosie Creek Road.
3. No cutting trees in tree plantations.
4. Trees are to be used for personal use and are not to be sold.
5. One tree per household.
6. Maximum tree height is 15 feet.
7. Division of Forestry does not provide for road maintenance or snow removal on forest roads. We strongly recommend that when traveling on these forest roads you have tire chains, a shovel, tow strap and extra warm clothing.
8. There is **NO CHARGE**. Have a Merry Christmas.



Christmas Tree Care

Interior Alaska's black and white spruce make excellent Christmas trees, but they need proper care to remain fresh, attractive, and safe throughout the holiday season.

Cutting

As temperatures are normally below zero in December, extra care should be taken when cutting down your tree.

To prevent brittle branches from being broken do not allow the tree to fall and hit the ground. Do not drag the tree over snow and through brush.

Home Care

Studies have shown that plain water exhibited the best needle retention for black and white spruce.

Researchers also found that needle retention for spruce was enhanced by a moist environment. To prevent fires, the tree should be located away from heat sources.

Before putting the tree in its stand, cut an inch or two off the butt end. This fresh cut allows the tree to take up water. Check the water at least once a day and make sure the base is always covered.

Tanana Valley State Forest Tree Plantations

In your travels throughout the State Forest, you will see many harvest units that have been planted with spruce trees for the next generation. **No removal or cutting of these plantation trees!**



Forest Road Safety

Logging trucks are common; please be alert and give them the right-of-way.



Driving Safety Tips

1. **Check with Forestry first.**
2. **Buckle-up.**
3. **Yield to oncoming industrial traffic.**
4. **Stay alert.**
5. **Obey all road signs.**
6. **Drive at a safe speed.**
7. **Drive with your lights on.**
8. **Do not block the road.**
9. **Use your C.B. radio but do not assume that you hear all traffic.**
10. **Watch out for road damage.**
11. **Report vandalism.**
12. **Be prepared.**

Tanana Valley State Forest

Free Christmas Trees

Conditions for Cutting



*Merry Christmas
from*

Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry
Fairbanks-Delta Area
907-451-2614



Update: 11/18/2024