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Alaskans Can Harvest a Tree on State Land this Holiday Season

(Anchorage, AK) – Many Alaska families enjoy cutting their own Christmas tree each year. The Division of Forestry & Fire Protection supports this tradition by allowing residents to harvest one tree for personal use on unrestricted State of Alaska lands.

Residents may take one tree per household under 15 feet. **Cut stumps low, harvest whole trees rather than topping, protect seedlings, and respect nearby homes and private property.** Cutting is not allowed in Alaska State Parks, Department of Transportation rights-of-way, Alaska Native lands, private property, or other restricted areas. Please confirm land ownership before cutting.

"Finding a Christmas tree on State land is a great way for families to enjoy time outdoors," said **Stephen Nickel, Mat-Su and Southwest Area Forester.** "A little preparation helps make the trip safe and enjoyable."

Forest roads are not maintained. Winter travel may include deep snow and industrial traffic. Bring tire chains, a shovel, a tow strap, and warm clothing. Avoid blocking road access.

Maps and area guides for the Fairbanks–Delta region, the Kenai Peninsula, and the Mat-Su Valley are available on the [DNR Christmas Tree Cutting page](#). Area notes:

- [Fairbanks–Delta](#): No cutting in the Bonanza Creek Experimental Forest, Zasada Road, Rosie Creek Road, or tree plantations
- [Kenai Peninsula](#): For cutting on adjacent public lands, contact the Chugach National Forest, Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, or Kenai Peninsula Borough
- [Mat-Su Valley](#): Cutting is allowed on unrestricted State land in the Matanuska Valley Moose Range and surrounding valleys

Tree care: Let the tree warm up in a garage or entryway, make a fresh cut at the base, place it in water, keep the stand water full, and avoid heat sources. [More tree care tips.](#)

The Department of Natural Resources' mission is to develop, conserve, and maximize the use of Alaska's natural resources consistent with the public interest.

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