Christmas Tree Permit Trip Checklist 2026

Before you go, what to bring and the rules at the cutting site

Monday

November 16, 2026

White River cutting opens

Facts

- White River permits cost $10 each, with a limit of 5 permits per person.
- Eldorado walk-in permits are $10 each, cash only, no bills larger than $20.
- Coconino allows trees up to 10 feet tall from ground level.
- Arapaho and Roosevelt: permits must be visible on the tree or your dash.

BEFORE YOU GO

- [ ] Buy the permit on Recreation.gov or at a district office
- [ ] Check your forest's cutting dates and maps
- [ ] Fourth grader: bring the Every Kid Outdoors pass
- [ ] Print the permit and the cutting guidelines

BRING

- [ ] Cash in bills of $20 or less (Eldorado walk-in)
- [ ] A tape measure for height and trunk width
- [ ] Saw, gloves and rope to move the tree

AT THE SITE

- [ ] Cut the stump 6 inches or less from the ground
- [ ] Stay 75 feet from any road or trail (Arapaho)
- [ ] Keep the tree under your forest's height limit
- [ ] Show the permit on the tree or your dash

Our forest, permit and cutting day

Source: Recreation.gov listings for White River, Eldorado and Coconino National Forests; U.S. Forest Service pages for Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests, read Nov. 14, 2026.