

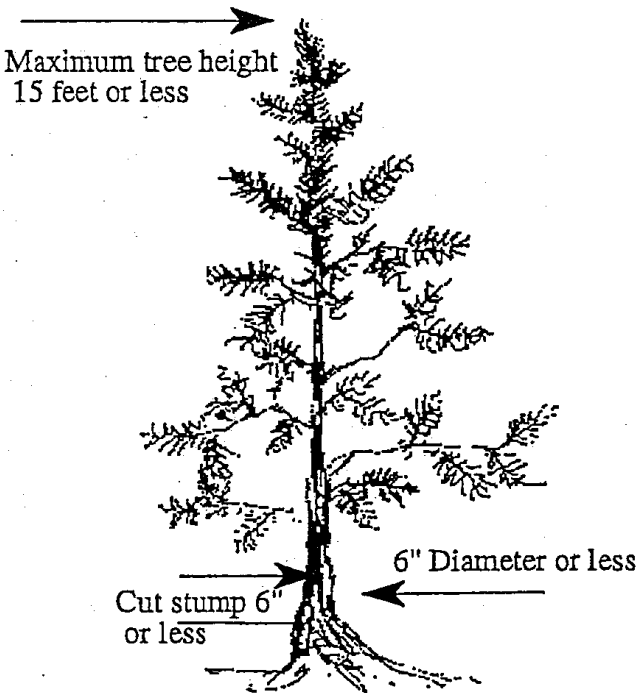


DILLON CHRISTMAS TREE CUTTING PROGRAM



LAKE HILL/ OLD DILLON RESERVOIR PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

- **CUT ONLY LODGEPOLE PINES!**
- **ABSOLUTELY NO PARKING ALONG I-70, YOU WILL GET A TICKET!**
- **PLEASE PARK IN THE OLD DILLON RESERVOIR TRAILHEAD PARKING LOT LOCATED OFF THE DILLON DAM ROAD.**
- **MAXIMUM TREE HEIGHT 15 FEET AND TREE DIAMETER OF 6" OR LESS AT THE BASE!**
- **LEAVE NO BRANCHES ATTACHED TO THE STUMP.**
- **LODGEPOLE PINE TREES ARE TO BE THINNED OUT & LEAVE A NON-CUT TREE EVERY 10-12 FEET.**
- **CHRISTMAS TREES MUST BE TAGGED BEFORE TRANSPORTING FROM PARKING LOT.**
- **CHAINSAWS PROHIBITED!**
- **SNOWMOBILES, MOTORCYCLE, ATV AND MOTORBIKE USE IS PROHIBITED.**
- **CUT ONLY IN DESIGNATED CUTTING AREA.**
- **CUT STUMPS CLOSE TO THE GROUND, PREFERABLY WITHIN 6".**
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HELPFUL HINTS

- USE HANDSAWS OR AXES TO CUT YOUR TREE.
- PARK OUT OF THE PATH OF TRAFFIC.
- TAKE ALL YOUR TRASH HOME WITH YOU.
- REMOVE AND SCATTER ALL UNNEEDED BRANCHES AND BOUGHS.
- IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, CONTACT FOREST SERVICE PERSONNEL.
- DRIVE SLOWLY AND DEFENSIVELY!

Q. WHY THIN (CUT) THESE TREES?

A. TO PROMOTE FOREST HEALTH!

Some of the concerns related to forest health are:

- *Mountain Pine Beetle* - In the last several years, most of the mature lodgepole pine around Dillon Reservoir have been killed by mountain pine beetle. Those trees were removed this past summer by contractors hired by the USFS. MPB killed the trees by burrowing under the bark of the trees and introducing a fungus called blue stain. The blue stain fungus prevents the tree from transporting water to the upper parts of the tree and the tree eventually dies. This process usually takes about one year. Perhaps you have seen wood that has a blue color or hue? MPB usually attack trees that are over 8" in diameter and over 80 years old, however in this latest outbreak the MPB have killed trees much younger and smaller than generally thought to be susceptible. Another factor is how closely the trees have grown together. Generally, the closer the trees grow together, the more susceptible they are to MPB attack. *Thinning trees now reduces the likelihood of a MPB attack in the future.*
- *Dwarf Mistletoe* - is a parasitic plant which establishes itself on a host tree and gains nutrients and water for survival by sending a root system into a branch or main stem of the host tree. As the mistletoe spreads throughout the tree crown, tree growth is generally reduced and the tree weakens and then dies. Dwarf Mistletoe is spread from tree to tree by seeds that are ejected from the plant at speeds up to 60 miles/hour. A common characteristic of Dwarf Mistletoe, in large trees, is large clumps of tight branches. It's usually hard to see daylight through these clumps called witches brooms. Before witches brooms are formed, swelling occurs in tree branches and shoots start growing out of the swollen areas. Even small trees are susceptible to this parasite, however there usually aren't witches brooms on small trees. When looking for your Christmas tree, spend some time looking for swollen areas with shoots and cut one of the infected trees. *Taking an infected tree will reduce the rate of spread of this parasitic plant in the forest.*
- *Aspen* - Cutting trees that are adjacent to or in a stand of aspens give the aspen more room to grow. If lodgepole pine are allowed to grow near or in a stand of aspen they will out-compete the aspen for sunlight and water.
- *Low Stumps* - Cut your tree no higher than 6" off the ground. Check to make sure there are no live limbs still attached to the stump. These live limbs will continue to grow and create a deformed tree that will be susceptible to disease.



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