Firewood permits available for Tahoe National Forest

Woodcutting permits for the Tahoe National Forest may be purchased beginning April 17.

The price for permits is \$15 per cord with a two-cord minimum and an annual 10-cord maximum per household. Permits may be obtained at all TNF Ranger Stations, the Forest Headquarters or by mail. Applications for mail-in permits can be found online under "Passes and Permits."

Firewood season will extend through Dec. 31; however, districts may close roads prior to that date if rain or snow makes them impassable.

In general, the woodcutting permit allows removal of dead or down wood on TNF lands unless otherwise designated. It does not allow cutting on private land. Trees may not be cut if marked with paint, wildlife signs, boundary signs, and other official signs or in areas closed to woodcutting.

Woodcutters are required to keep a serviceable shovel at least 46-inches long and an approved fire extinguisher (2 pound dry chemical or 1 pound foam type — ABC or greater) within 25 feet of where saws are being operated. All gasoline-powered saws and other internal combustion engines such as motorized splitters must have a U.S. Forest Service approved spark arrester installed. Transportation load tickets will be issued along with the permit.

For more information, call 530.265.4531.