

U-cut Christmas tree farms

Southwest Washington is the place to be for those who enjoy a trip to a tree farm to select and cut their own holiday Christmas tree. Most farms open the day after Thanksgiving and remain open until close to Christmas. Some are only open on weekends or specific days of the week, as noted below.

The Pacific Northwest Christmas Tree Association has recommendations for the care of a fresh cut tree. Cut at least a half inch off the bottom of your tree to open the pores which may have become clogged with sap. The tree should be put in water as soon as possible after cutting.

Place the tree in a sturdy tree stand that will hold at least a gallon of water. It should be watered daily as it consumes between a quart and a gallon of water each day. If the water level drops below the cut end, a seal will form and no more water will be absorbed by the tree.

Miniature lights produce less heat and reduce the drying effect upon a tree.

After Christmas, trees can be chipped and composted at recycling centers, or picked up by boy scouts for a donation. Trees should not be burned in a wood stove or fireplace.

TREE FARM LISTINGS

The following farms are promoting their sale of Christmas trees to the public this holiday season. Feel free to contact the farm directly if you have specific questions.

1 GLENWOOD TREE FARM

NE 139th St. and NE 87th Ave., Vancouver
Trees: Douglas fir to 10 feet - \$25; Grand fir to 10 feet - \$35; Norwegian spruce to 10 feet - \$25; Noble fir to 11 feet - \$45; table-top trees - starting at \$15
Prices: All prices include sales tax.
Hours: Daylight to dark - Fri., Nov. 25-Sat., Dec. 24.
Extras: Carts provided to move trees from the field. Free tree shaking. Saws, shelter, candy canes and doggie treats are also provided. The farm has roads throughout the field. Wreaths are available.

Profile/Directions: The farm is operated by Neill and Sharon Schill. To reach the farm from NE 72nd Ave. go east on NE 139th St., and follow signs to the farm. From SR-503, go west on NE 119th St. to NE 87th Ave., then north to NE 139th St., and east on NE 139th St., follow signs, (360)573-2336.

2 CHICK'S CHRISTMAS TREES

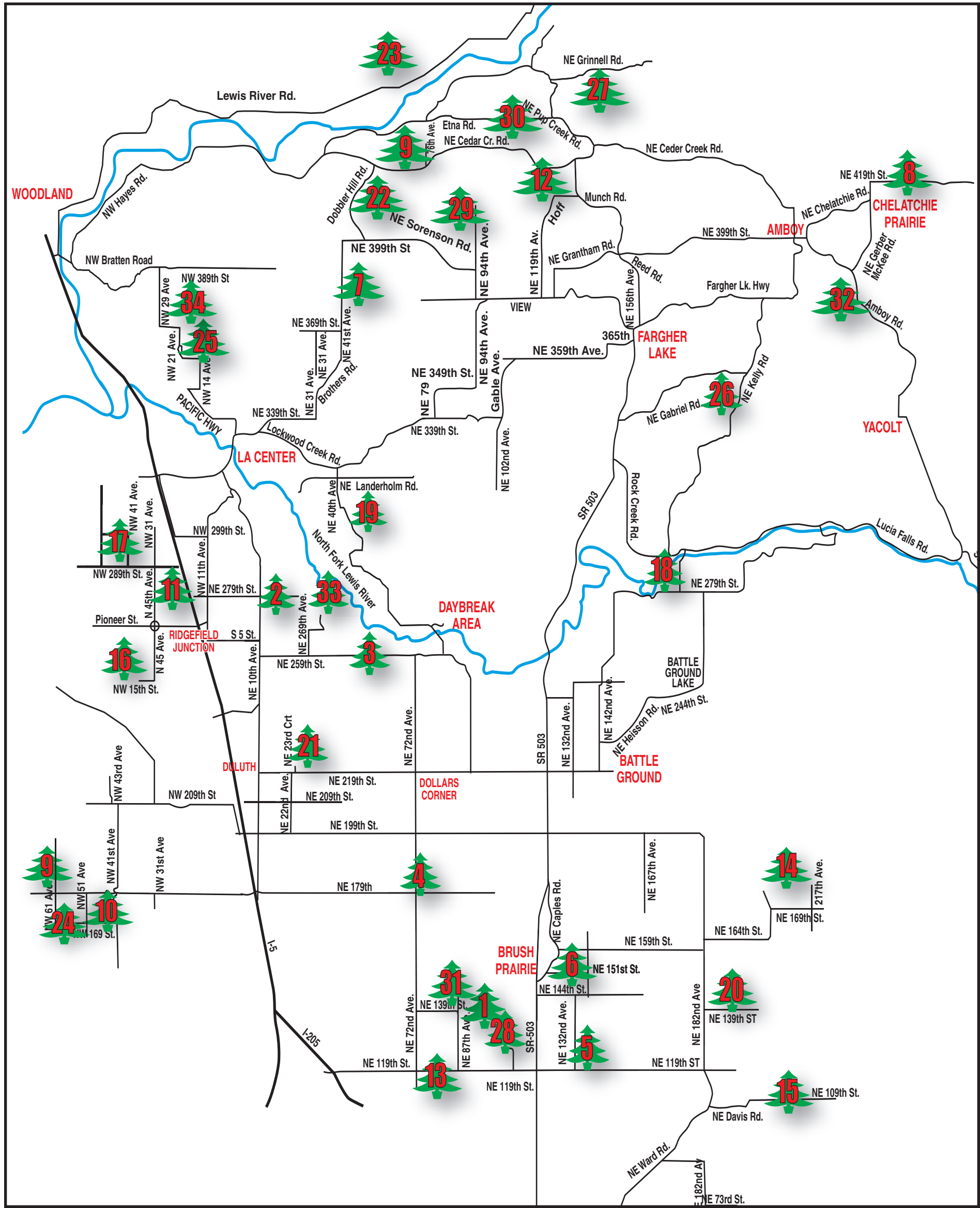
1610 NE 279th St., Ridgefield
 U-pick - We-cut
Trees: Grand fir, Noble fir, Douglas fir
Hours: 9 a.m.-dark daily
Extras: Farm crews will cut your selected tree, then haul trees on a tractor-pulled wagon to the parking area. Wreaths, canes and swags are offered. The farm also sells assorted salsa, pies and jelly. Gift baskets also available. Fire to warm yourselves. (360)887-8143.

3 THE TREE WISEMANS CHRISTMAS TREE FARM

2650 NE 53rd Ave., Ridgefield
Trees: Douglas and Grand fir to 12 feet; Noble fir to 15 feet (high quality, cultured);
Prices: \$25 and up
Hours: Open Nov. 25-Dec. 24, 10 a.m. -dusk weekdays, 8 a.m.-dusk, weekends.
Extras: Saws, tree shaking and baling, help loading and candy canes are provided. Gift shop is open daily. Wreaths and flocking are available daily, as well as coffee, lattes and hot chocolate on the weekends.
Profile/Directions: This 30-acre farm, in business since 1980, has changed address but the farm has not moved. It is located off NE 259th St. between 50th and 72nd Avenues, Ridgefield. The farm's website is treewisemans.com and email address is treewisemans@msn.com, (360) 887-4582.

4 TAPPAN'S CHRISTMAS TREES

7301 NE 185th Circle, Battle Ground
Trees: Douglas fir - all sizes \$20; Grand fir - all sizes \$25; Noble fir - all sizes \$37; Fraser fir - all sizes \$25; Lots of trees up to 10 feet tall



Prices: Prices include sales tax.
Hours: Open from Fri., Nov. 25-Tue., Dec. 20., 10 a.m.-dusk on weekdays and 9 a.m.-dusk on weekends.
Extras: Free shaking along with saws, restroom, candy canes, coffee and hot chocolate. Twine provided. The farm has gravel roads and clean fields.
Profile/Directions: This 10-acre farm can be reached from the Clark County Fairgrounds, east on NE 179th St. three miles to NE 72nd Ave., then north and watch for a sign on the east side of the road after about 1/4 mile. From Battle Ground, go west on NE 219th St. to Dollars Corner, then south on NE 72nd Ave. and watch for a sign on the east side of the road after about 1 3/4 miles, (360)573-8210 or (360) 608-8505.

5 LARWICK'S CHRISTMAS TREES

12605 NE 132nd Ave., Brush Prairie
Trees: Grand fir, Noble fir, Douglas fir, Fraser fir. Pre-cut Nobles, 6-8 feet.
Hours: Mon.-Fri., Noon-4:30 p.m., Sat.-Sun., 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Extras: Santa's Gift Shop with homemade crafts fill the farm's craft building. Hot apple cider, hot cocoa and candy canes are provided. Wreaths and swags

6 JOHN'S TREE HOUSE

12909 NE 151st St., Brush Prairie
Trees: Douglas fir to 12 feet, Noble fir to 10 feet, Grand fir.
Prices: All trees \$15
Hours: Open Saturday and Sunday only - 8 a.m.-6 p.m., beginning Nov. 26.
Extras: Help in cutting and loading is provided plus popcorn, candy canes, hot chocolate and wassail. Campfire burning for warmth. Handcrafted gifts. Restrooms.

7 RILEY CREEK TREE FARM

38209 NE 41st Ave., La Center
Trees: Noble fir to 11 feet - \$4.75

are available. Wood cutouts are placed around the farm for pictures. Bow saws and string are provided. Shaking, to remove dead needles, is available, along with a netting service. Restrooms are provided.
Profile/Directions: This 20-acre, u-cut farm is operated by Lorran and Jane Larwick. Information - www.larwicktrees.com, (360)256-7142.

8 HARMON'S TREE FARM

25203 NE 419th St. (SR 503)
Trees: Douglas fir to 9 feet - \$2.50 per foot; Grand fir to 9 feet - \$3.00 per foot; Noble fir to 12 feet - \$4.00 per foot; Blue spruce to 12 feet (limited number) - \$3.00 per foot
Prices: No credit or debit cards accepted.

per foot; Douglas fir to 11 feet - \$2.75 per foot; Grand fir to 8 feet - \$3.75 per foot

A portion of purchases with coupons will be donated to the La Center Education Foundation. Coupons available at schools and Riley Creek Tree Farm.

Hours: Opens Fri., Nov. 25, 9 a.m. - dusk, daily.

Extras: Hot chocolate, coffee, candy canes, a nativity scene and hayrides (weather permitting) are part of the fun. Limited farm crew help on weekdays. Free tree baling. Wreaths available.

Profile/Directions: This 50-acre farm is operated by the Wisniewski family, in its 10th year of u-cut and is four miles from La Center. The farm can be reached by following Highland Road past the high school toward Annie's Berry Farm. (360)263-3625, www.rileycreektreefarm.com.

9 SUNSET VIEW FIRS

(Ridgefield & Woodland)
 18211 NW 61st Ave., Ridgefield
 42800 NE 76th Ave., Woodland
Trees: Excellent selection of 6-12 foot Noble fir with many over 12 feet. Also a selection of Douglas fir, Fraser fir, Nordmann fir and pines.
Prices: Nobles: to 6 feet \$25; 6-8 feet \$35; 8-10 feet \$45; 10-12 feet \$55; 12 feet and over - \$6 per foot. Woodland farm: all trees \$25.
Hours: Ridgefield farm - Friday, Saturday and Sunday following Thanksgiving from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
 Woodland farm - Open daily following Thanksgiving from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Extras: Saws provided along with help cutting, baling and shaking. Fresh wreaths and stands are

available and restrooms provided. Candy canes and hot chocolate are part of the fun.

Profile/Directions: These farms are operated by Jason and Lisa Leonard. The Ridgefield farm is 3.5 miles west of the Clark County Fairgrounds. Follow the signs. The Woodland farm is 8.25 miles east of Woodland on Cedar Creek Rd., near the Cedar Creek Grist Mill. Follow the signs. For more information visit www.sunsetviewfirs.com or call (360)576-8975.

10 VANLAEKEN'S CHRISTMAS TREE FARM

4716 NW 169th St., Ridgefield
Trees: Grand, Nordmann and pre-cut Noble fir.
Prices: Prices start at \$25.
Hours: Opens Fri., Nov. 25, and remain open seven days a week through Dec. 18. Weekday hours 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Weekends 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Extras: Make sure you stop in and check to see if you won the Christmas tree from last year's drawing and don't forget to enter this year's drawing. Saws and help cutting and loading are pro-

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