

For further information or questions regarding salvage permits, please contact:

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Visit the Firewood Salvage Permit
Online Mapping tool online at:
www.co.beltrami.mn.us



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Balsam Bough Permits



NRM Department Mission Statement

Beltrami County Natural Resource Management's mission is to responsibly manage the tax-forfeited lands in Beltrami County in a sustainable manner that benefits the citizens of the County. The department is committed to a sustainable harvest and multiple use management of its lands. It also recognizes the impacts its activities can have on aesthetics, wildlife, riparian areas, cultural resources, soils, recreation, and water quality.

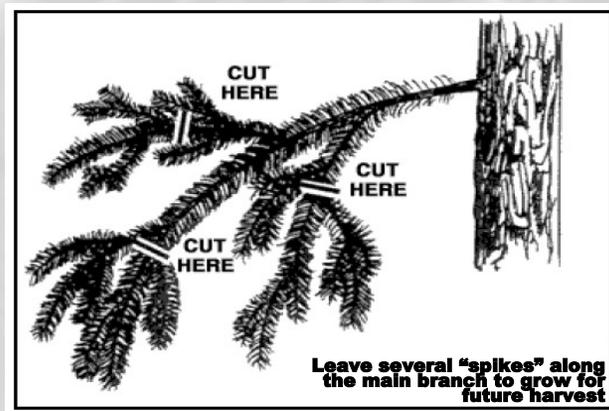
Balsam Bough Permits

- Permits are required for harvesting boughs on all County managed lands.
- Permits are \$50 (minimum of 2 tons at \$25/ton).
- Maximum 4 tons per bough permit.
- Permits are issued for no more than a 4 section area.
- No more than 2 permits per section will be issued.
- Bough permits are only valid in the assigned area indicated on the permit.
- No harvesting of boughs is allowed within 50 feet of any road.
- No cedar boughs are permitted to be harvested.
- All permits are non-refundable and non-transferable.
- Permittee must possess their permit at the time of cutting or may be charged with trespass.
- Minnesota DNR enforcement policies apply to all bough harvesting.

- Permits will be sold on a “First Come, First Serve” basis.
- Permit holders are responsible for any damage to roads and/or trails resulting from the salvage operation.

Sustainable Harvesting

- Harvest only trees taller than 7 feet.
- Harvest from the bottom 1/3 of the tree.
- Boughs up to 36 inches in length are acceptable.
- Harvested branch ends should be no larger than the diameter of a fat pencil.
- Leave a portion of each pruned branch for regeneration.



Why Balsam Fir?

Balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*) has flat, fragrant needles that make attractive wreaths. It grows in the forested regions of Minnesota, northern portions of Wisconsin and Michigan and throughout Canada. Boughs harvested from this tree species are used in 98 percent of the decorative wreaths manufactured in Minnesota and distributed nationwide for the holiday season.

In Minnesota, the balsam bough harvesting season begins in early October, after two or more hard frosts have “set” the needles on the branches. It continues until early December.

Source:

Taking a Bough
Minnesota's Balsam Bough Industry

MN DNR, University of Minnesota Extension Service,
and the Balsam Bough Partnership

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