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For Immediate Release

June 29, 2022

Cradle of Forestry Offers “Christmas in July” Celebration

Pisgah Forest, NC – FIND Outdoors, a local nonprofit and managers of the Cradle of Forestry in Pisgah National Forest, are excited to offer visitors the chance to celebrate “Christmas in July” at the Cradle all month long in honor of the Capitol Christmas Tree.

Each year since 1970, the tradition of the Capitol Christmas Tree has seen trees selected from a different national forest, and for the 2022 holiday season, North Carolina has been given the honor to harvest the iconic symbol for a third time.

Known as “The People’s Tree”, the tree will be harvested by the National Forests of North Carolina and will adorn the West Lawn of the US Capitol in December. The theme of the tree for this season will be “From the Mountains to the Sea” to bring the excitement and beauty of NC’s public lands to the forefront all year long, from the birthplace of scientific forestry and one of the oldest mountain ranges in the world to the heritage and scenic beauty of North Carolina’s Outer Banks.

The Cradle of Forestry will offer visitors the chance to get a head start on the holiday spirit by hosting the “Christmas in July” event throughout the month with activities, discounts on retail items, refreshments, and even a visit from Santa himself, but that’s not all. Not only is the Capitol Christmas Tree coming from North Carolina, but you’ll have a chance to make a special ornament that will adorn the tree once it’s been placed on the West Lawn.

“We saw the opportunity to give our visitors and our community something truly unique this year, considering this amazing opportunity with the National Forests of North Carolina,” stated Beth Hooper, FIND Outdoors Chief Operating Officer. “Come up to the Cradle, kick off the holiday season a bit early, and start checking off a few names from your Christmas list.”



In addition to the activities, caroling, and holiday decorations, admission to the Cradle of Forestry will be FREE on July 23rd and 24th for anyone who makes a homemade decoration for the Capitol Christmas Tree, giving the tree a unique feel of western North Carolina and its communities.

“This is a chance for us to bring the amazing aspects of our home town and forests to a wider audience on a national level,” concluded Hooper. “Help us leave our mark on a national treasure in July!”

The Christmas in July celebration will take place July 1-31 at the Cradle of Forestry on normal business days (Wednesday – Monday, closed Tuesdays) from 10:00 – 5:00pm. Regular admission to the site is \$6 ages 13 and up, \$3 ages 4-12, with free admission for ornament decorators on July 23-24.

For more information on the Cradle of Forestry, and to view more upcoming programs and events, please visit <https://gofindoutdoors.org/cradle-of-forestry/> and go explore!

About FIND Outdoors

FIND Outdoors, formerly the Cradle of Forestry in America Interpretive Association, is a 50-year old 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in Pisgah Forest, NC. We serve over 900,000 visitors annually with a mission that promotes educational, recreational and interpretive opportunities about forest and water resources, natural history and the Cradle of Forestry in America. FIND Outdoors proudly manages campgrounds, visitor centers, sales outlets and educational facilities on five National Forests in North Carolina, Georgia, Indiana, and Kentucky, along with the Northwest Trading Post on the Blue Ridge Parkway. FIND accomplishes its mission by providing exceptional outdoor experiences through partnership opportunities for the health, safety and education of all visitors to local and regional public and private lands.