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Comments: The big forests in Missouri used to have a program where they would identify & fell trees to give the best life cycle possibilities to the remaining forest.

Then families were given limited access to specific areas to cut up and load a pickup bed full (about a cord) periodically, for personal use.

Granted trees in Missouri are different than CA, and the slopes of the Ozark Mtns are quite different than the Sierra's. But areas that needed thinned, but wouldn't have been safe, often used more professional logging crews, to extricate wood which was seasoned and sent to state camp sites for sale.

It is hard work, but a day out in those trees, with a picnic lunch was blissful, at the same time. Unfortunately, I am one with respiratory issues that can't even tolerate neighbor fireplaces now. But wood chips are great as biomass, mulch, decorative and commercial landscaping.