

Husband handed out hugs to all women except wife



DEAR ABBY
ADVICE

DEAR ABBY: My strongest “love language” is physical touch. For 23 years, my husband gave hugs galore to any and every woman, but never to me. The word “never” is not an exaggeration. He has recently begun to change and try to be better. Now he does hug me as much as I want. But when he hugs other women, it still feels like a knife through my heart.

He says the hugs mean nothing to him, but I question why, if they

were so insignificant, he couldn't give me even one for more than two decades? How do I get over feeling hurt when he hugs other women? Is there something wrong with my perspective on this? I'm not sure if I'm being too sensitive. — **FINALLY WORTH HUGGING**

DEAR FINALLY: Too sensitive? There is nothing wrong with your “perspective.” For 23 years your passive-aggressive husband chose to withhold a gesture of affection you requested, while showering other women with it. It's “nice” that he's finally willing to make the effort to hug you but, frankly, it seems a bit late. It may take a therapist to help work

through your justified hurt and anger over this. My advice is to start now.

DEAR ABBY: My husband died suddenly three months ago. My family sympathizes with me; however, my youngest daughter thinks I need to move on and get over his death. How can I make her understand that his death has devastated me, and getting over it will take time? She reads tarot cards and claims the cards are telling me to get over it and move on. How can I get her to stop with the card readings? — **HEARTBROKEN IN SOUTH CAROLINA**

DEAR HEARTBROKEN: Your daughter may be trying to be helpful. She may also be uncomfortable see-

ing her mother in pain. Clearly, she has no clue about how grief works. There is no timetable for it, but three months is a relatively short period of time. Tell her that for the foreseeable future those card readings will no longer be a subject of discussion. Then, if she brings it up again, change the subject.

DEAR ABBY: I'm writing to ask your advice about how to tell my friends we should not exchange Christmas gifts this year. We are all retirees. I'm not cheap, and neither are they, but none of us “needs” anything. I suspect many of us want to say it, but we don't know how. I don't want to hurt anyone's feelings. Suggestions? — **HALT-**

ING HOLIDAY GIFT-GIVING

DEAR HALTING: I assume you see or communicate with these friends regularly. Raise this subject during one of your visits well before the Christmas holiday. Many retirees are trying to divest themselves of the “things” they have accumulated during their lifetime, and your friends may feel similarly. Do not feel shy about bringing it up. They may be as relieved as you about exchanging only cards and good wishes.

■ *Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

Trees

Continued from B1

Here's a list of some of the common tree species in our region:

Grand fir/white fir

These true firs are abundant at the lower elevations that are more likely to be accessible in late fall.

They also have a classic Christmas tree form, with nicely spaced branches that offer plenty of places for ornaments, lights and tinsel.

Although grand fir and white fir are separate species, hybrids bearing traits of both are common in the Blue Mountains, the late Charles Grier Johnson Jr., longtime forest ecologist in the Blues for the Forest Service, wrote in his definitive “Alpine and Subalpine Vegetation of the Wallowa, Seven Devils and Blue Mountains.”

“Hybridization between these two true firs ... make identification difficult,” Johnson wrote.

But names, of course, are less important than shape.

Subalpine fir

Full-grown subalpine firs are easy to recognize from their slender, dart-like shape. But in juvenile form they sometimes resemble grand firs.

A distinguishing characteristic of the subalpine fir is its needles. They grow at all angles from the limb, rather than in flat, orderly rows as a grand or white fir's do.

Although subalpine firs usually grow at higher elevations than grand firs, the two species occasionally mingle between about 5,500 and 6,000 feet.

Douglas-fir

Not a true fir — hence the hyphen — these conifers have more in common with hemlocks.

Although Douglas-fir is a favorite Christmas tree species in the Cascades and Coast Range, the Rocky Mountain variety that grow in our forests typically

aren't as graceful in appearance as grand or white firs.

Lodgepole pine

Lodgepole pines are easy to find, but lodgepole pines that make good Christmas trees are not.

Lodgepoles of the right height tend to be a bit sparse of limb and a bit unkempt in appearance, as though they had slept in an alley.

Lodgepoles are the only pines native to Oregon whose needle bundles contain two needles (ponderosa pines have three needles per bundle, white and whitebark pines five).

Ponderosa pine

Like lodgepoles, ponderosa pines are plentiful in many places, especially at lower elevations. But their long needles aren't well-suited for ornament placement, and they lack the layered limbs that distinguish firs.

Engelmann spruce

A person might mistake a spruce for a fir, but there's an easy way to tell which is which: grab a limb.

If you think you just poked a porcupine, you just touched a spruce.

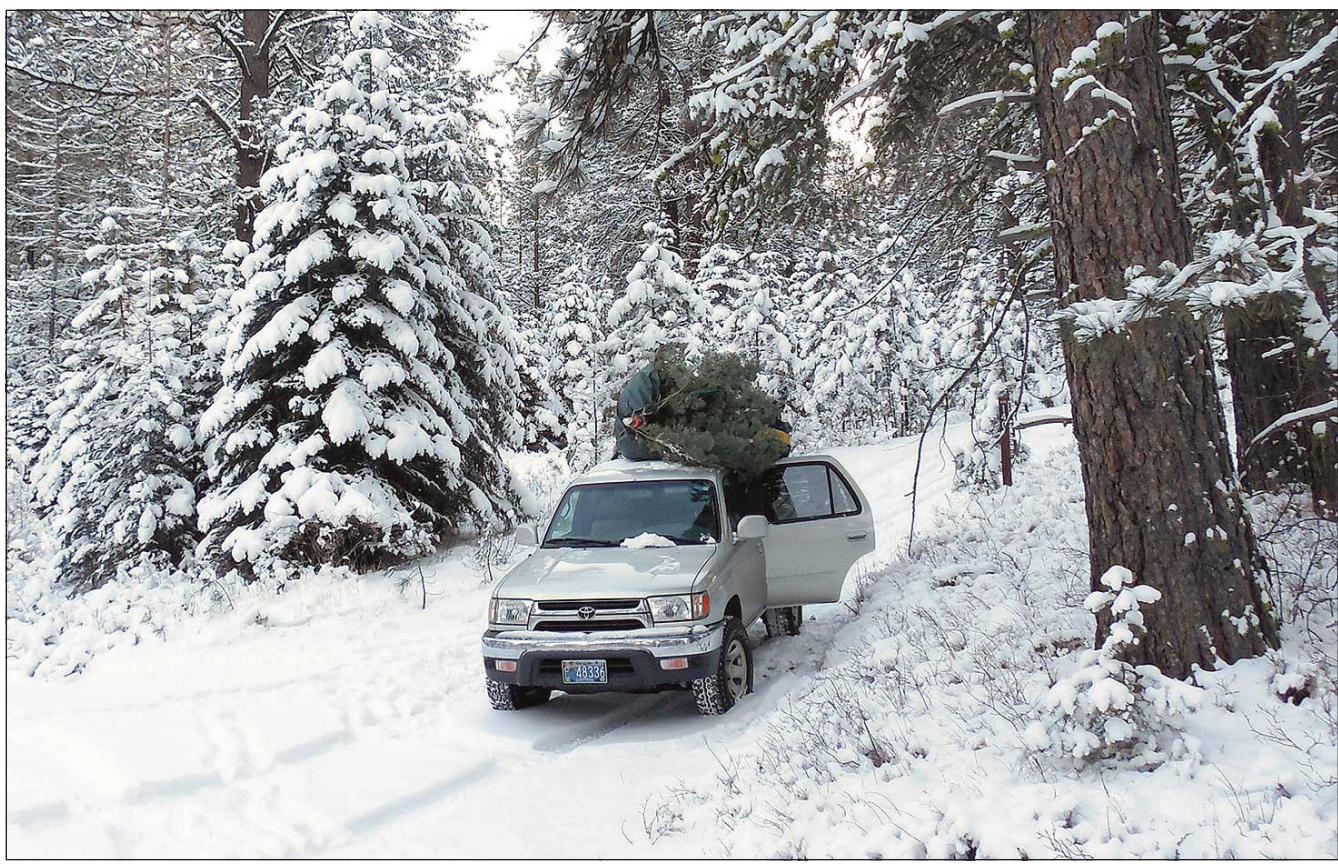
Spruce needles are stiff and have prickly edges, unlike the softer, more finger-friendly firs.

Spruce trees usually grow in wet areas, and often are found in groves near streams.

Tree-cutting guidelines

There are several rules common to all three national forests in the Blue Mountains, including:

- Cut your tree at least 50 feet away from the road.
- Clean up any trimmings or limbs.
- Leave stumps no higher than 10 inches
- Remove any green limbs left that remain on the stump. You can keep these for decorations.
- Do not cut in active timber sales or areas that have been planted with new trees.
- Do not cut on private land,



Chris Collins/Baker City Herald, File

If you decide to head into the snowbound forest to cut your own Christmas tree, make sure your vehicle is prepared for the conditions, and bring along extra clothing, food and water.

wilderness areas, designated campgrounds, or existing tree plantations.

- Do not cut trees in the following areas: Baker City Watershed, Anthony Lakes Campground or Ski Area, Starkey Experimental Forest, La Grande Watershed, Hurricane Creek, and Lostine drainages.
 - Do not cut trees in posted old growth areas or within 1/4 mile of wild and scenic corridors.
 - Christmas tree cutting within sight of a state highway is prohibited.
 - Place the tag on your tree immediately after cutting.
- There are also restrictions specific to individual national forests.

Wallowa-Whitman

- The maximum tree height is 15 feet and stump diameter is 6 inches.
- Do not cut trees in the following areas: Baker City Watershed, Anthony Lakes Camp-

ground or Ski Area, Starkey Experimental Forest, La Grande Watershed, Hurricane Creek and Lostine drainages.

Umatilla

- The maximum height of tree to be cut is 14 feet tall.
- Do not cut trees within 200 feet of Bluewood or Spout Springs Ski Areas, summer home sites, Tollgate Work Center, or Forest Service guard stations.
- Christmas tree cutting in the Tollgate area on the Walla Walla Ranger District can be challenging after Dec. 1, when most forest roads close for the winter. After Dec. 1, snowmobiling or snowshoeing will be your only access onto most roads off Highway 204.
- Christmas tree cutting on the Pomeroy Ranger District is prohibited on Park and Cook Ridges, and in the Lick Creek area, including Sheep Creek, Cabin, Capehorn and Mud Springs ridges. You may en-

counter road closures during logging operations.

Malheur

- Removal of transplants from riparian (springs, creeks, wet areas), campgrounds, wilderness, scenic, research, and botanical areas is prohibited. Avoid old growth areas as well.
- Only cut trees that are less than 12 feet in height.
- Do not cut a tree unless there is another tree within 20 feet to maintain disbursement of trees and optimum growth for the future.
- Cutting trees within 150 feet of Highway 26, County Road 62, or Forest Road 16, is prohibited.

Safety tips back at home

- Once you get home, taking proper care of your tree will keep it green longer and reduce the risk of fire.
- Cut and water your tree: Once you get your tree home, cut a half an inch off the stump

to help with water uptake, and make sure to water your tree daily. Well-watered trees keep their scent longer.

- Get the right tree stand: Use a sturdy tree stand that holds at least 1 gallon of water. Make sure you refill the container daily, as an average tree may consume 1 to 4 quarts of water daily.
- Place your tree away from heat sources: Do not place your Christmas tree within 3 feet of any heat source, like a radiator. Live tree fires outnumber artificial tree fires by 3-1, and they cause 20 times more injuries, according to the National Fire Protection Association.
- Check electric lights and connections: Lights with frayed or cracked wires or broken sockets should be thrown away and not repaired. Never use open flames, like a lighted candle, on or near Christmas trees, and always turn off tree lights when leaving the house or going to bed.

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weather

TONIGHT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
Mainly clear and cold	Mostly cloudy and chilly	Cloudy	Showers of rain and snow	Sun through high clouds
Baker City 13 Comfort Index™ 0	35 19 0	39 21 1	38 25 0	48 23 3
La Grande 22 Comfort Index™ 0	39 27 0	41 30 2	42 32 0	47 28 3
Enterprise 22 Comfort Index™ 3	39 29 3	42 29 3	44 33 3	46 31 5

Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable.

ALMANAC

TEMPERATURES	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
High Thursday	29°	30°	33°
Low Thursday	11°	16°	16°
PRECIPITATION (inches)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	0.55	2.74	5.13
Normal month to date	0.40	1.07	1.59
Year to date	6.26	13.67	25.52
Normal year to date	7.88	14.65	20.62

THURSDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	High: 82° Low: -16° Wettest: 0.92"	Anaheim, Calif. Butte, Mont. Erie, Pa.
OREGON	High: 55° Low: -8° Wettest: Trace	Brookings Lakeview Ontario

WEATHER HISTORY

Copious amounts of snow fell in the mountains of Arizona on Nov. 19, 1993. Mt. Lenunon received 24 inches of snow. Up to 17 inches accumulated in Red River.

SUN & MOON

SAT.	SUN.
Sunrise 6:56 a.m.	6:57 a.m.
Sunset 4:19 p.m.	4:18 p.m.
Moonrise 1:47 a.m.	2:57 a.m.
Moonsset 2:25 p.m.	2:44 p.m.

MOON PHASES	Nov 23	Nov 30	Dec 7	Dec 16
New	First	Full	Last	

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION SUNDAY

Lowest relative humidity	30%
Afternoon wind	5 at 8 to 16 mph
Hours of sunshine	8.4
Evapotranspiration	0.07

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Friday)

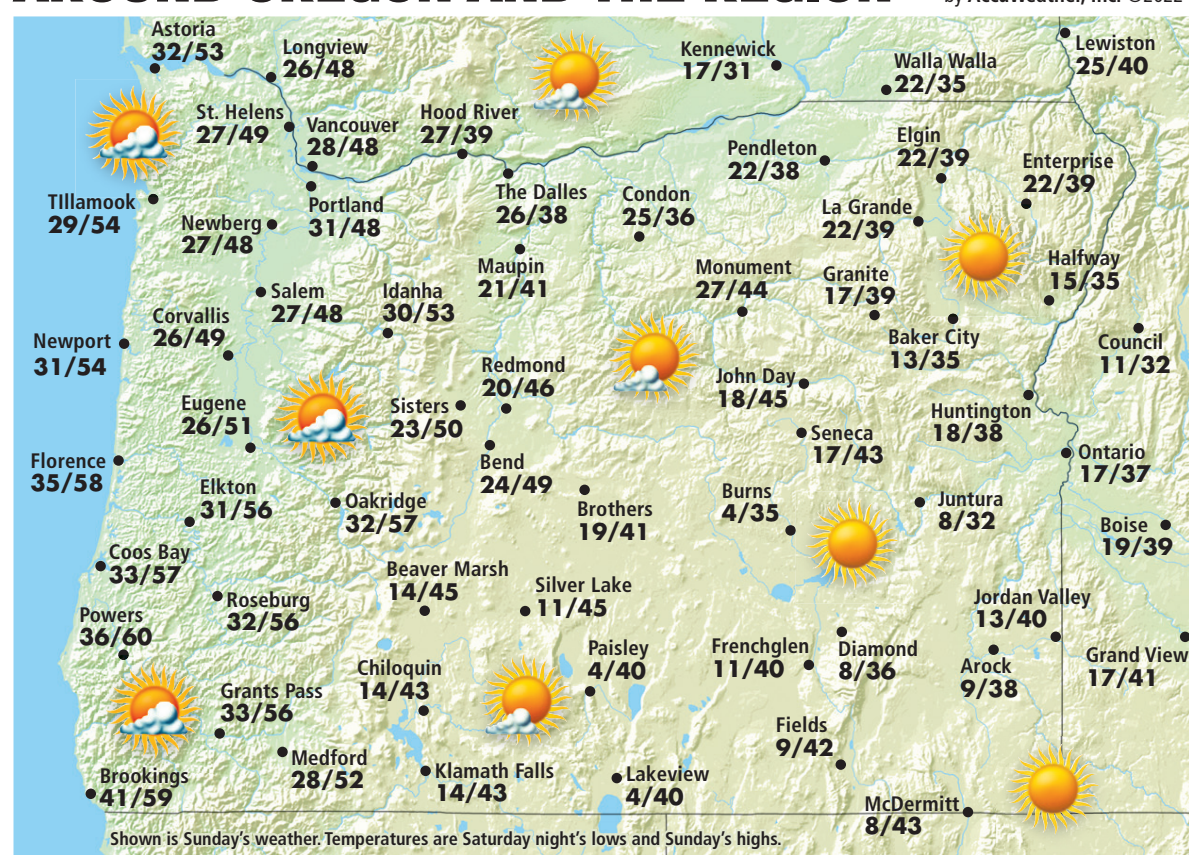
Phillips Reservoir	1% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	28% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	10% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	27% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	9% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	8% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Thursday)

Grand Valley at Troy	833 cfs
Thief Run Reservoir near North Powder	4 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	8 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	66 cfs
Minam River at Minam	N.A.
Powder River near Richland	18 cfs

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2022



REGIONAL CITIES

City	SUN. HI/Lo/W	MON. HI/Lo/W	City	SUN. HI/Lo/W	MON. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	53/42/c	53/45/sh	Lewiston	40/31/c	42/36/c
Bend	49/31/pc	49/35/c	Longview	48/39/pc	48/45/sh
Boise	39/20/s	40/25/c	Meacham	39/28/c	42/29/c
Brookings	59/44/pc	59/48/c	Medford	52/35/pc	53/40/c
Burns	35/11/pc	42/15/c	Newport	54/43/c	55/48/c
Coos Bay	57/42/c	57/46/sh	Olympia	48/36/c	45/43/sh
Corvallis	49/35/c	50/43/sh	Ontario	37/19/pc	38/24/pc
Council	32/15/s	34/22/pc	Pasco	35/23/pc	36/26/c
Elgin	39/27/c	44/30/c	Pendleton	38/23/pc	37/31/c
Eugene	51/36/pc	55/42/sh	Portland	48/39/c	49/43/sh
Hermiston	34/24/pc	36/27/c	Powers	60/40/c	59/46/c
Hood River	39/32/c	44/36/c	Redmond	46/28/pc	49/34/c
Imnaha	41/31/pc	41/37/c	Roseburg	56/40/pc	55/45/sh
John Day	45/28/pc	46/32/c	Salem	48/37/pc	52/43/sh
Joseph	39/29/pc	42/31/c	Spokane	33/23/c	36/28/c
Kennewick	31/24/pc	35/25/c	The Dalles	38/30/c	42/35/c
Klamath Falls	43/20/pc	46/25/c	Ukiah	43/29/pc	44/31/c
Lakeview	40/12/pc	41/14/c	Walla Walla	35/24/pc	36/32/c

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice

RECREATION FORECAST SUNDAY

ANTHONY LAKES Turning cloudy	31 21	PHILLIPS LAKE Rather cloudy	35 21
MT. EMILY REC. Mostly cloudy	35 28	BROWNLEE RES. Mostly sunny	40 22
EAGLE CAP WILD. Partly sunny	30 19	EMIGRANT ST. PARK Mainly cloudy	40 25
WALLOWA LAKE Partly sunny	39 29	MCKAY RESERVOIR Cold	38 26
THIEF VALLEY RES. Cold	35 19	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK Mostly cloudy	39 27