

Distinguished Veterans Day Use Parking Pass

Thank you for your service

As a distinguished veteran of the U.S. military and a Sonoma County resident, you may be eligible for a free annual day-use parking pass. This pass gives you access to more than 50 Regional Parks and trails, including Spring Lake, Doran Beach, Ragle Ranch and Steelhead Beach.

Regional Parks are located in all areas of Sonoma County – from Petaluma to Cloverdale and Sonoma to Gualala. The parks offer beautiful settings for you to enjoy the outdoors. Visit SonomaCountyParks.org to find out more about the parks and free or low-cost activities.

The Distinguished Veterans parking pass is an annual pass valid through Dec. 31. It can be renewed each January.

Eligibility Requirements

You are eligible if you meet the following criteria:

- You have a valid California driver license or identification card as proof of Sonoma County residency

AND, one of the following:

- You have a valid California State Parks Distinguished Veterans Pass (formerly "Disabled War Veteran/POW Pass"); **OR**
- You contact the Sonoma County Veterans Services Office (VSO) to have a caseworker verify that you meet one of the following criteria, established for the state parks pass:
 - a. *Disabled War Veteran*: A certificate from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs stating that you were honorably discharged and that the disability is service-connected and rated 50 percent or greater; and proof of service during wartime.
 - b. *Prisoner of War*: A letter from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or copy of personnel records from the appropriate United States military branch verifying former prisoner of war status and honorable discharge.
 - c. *Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient*: A letter from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or copy of personnel records from the appropriate United States military branch verifying Congressional Medal of Honor recipient status and honorable discharge.

Sonoma County Veterans Service Office
3725 Westwind Boulevard, Suite 100
Santa Rosa, CA 95402
707-565-5955 • vso@schsd.org

Once your eligibility is verified, your VSO caseworker will ask Sonoma County Regional Parks to mail you a pass. No further action is needed on your part.

Renewal Process

The pass can be renewed each year in January, at no cost. Call or visit the Regional Parks office during regular business hours at 2300 County Center Drive, Suite 120A, Santa Rosa, CA 95403, 707-565-2041. Safety protocols are required, including wearing a face covering and social distancing.

