

# 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 five-year 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](http://SonomaCountyParks.org) to find out more about the parks and free or low-cost activities.

The Distinguished Veterans parking pass is valid through Dec. 31 five years from the date it was issued.

## 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/POWPass"); **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:
  1. *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.
  2. *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.
  3. *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](mailto: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 five-year pass can be renewed each year in January of the expiring year, 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.

