

The Press Democrat

Redwoods League offers free passes to California's redwood parks

GUY KOVNER | THE PRESS DEMOCRAT | January 9, 2018



Hiking among the redwoods. If you're in Sonoma County, there is always a redwood forest nearby. A few choices include Armstrong Redwoods State Natural Reserve, Austin Creek State Recreation Area and Sonoma Coast State Park. (Kent Porter / Press Democrat)

Celebrating its 100th anniversary, Save the Redwoods League is offering free passes at 47 redwood state parks on the second Saturday of each month in 2018.

Passes for Jan. 13 went up for grabs online Monday morning at www.FreeRedwoodsDays.org on a first-come, first-served basis.

A total of 16,000 passes, which cover day-use admission and parking fees, are available this year.

Eight state parks in Sonoma County are participating in the give-away supported by the league and Oracle, the computer technology corporation founded in 1977 and headquartered in Redwood City.

There were 50 passes for Jan. 13 available Monday morning for Austin Creek State Recreation Area, Fort Ross and Jack London state historic parks and Salt Point State Park; 49 for Armstrong Redwoods State Natural Reserve and 25 for Sonoma Coast State Park among local parks.

Eleven parks in Mendocino County and four in Napa County are also participating, along with parks from Del Norte to Monterey counties.

“People come from around the world to walk among California’s ancient redwoods,” said Sam Hodder, president and CEO of the league.

The 17,500-member league has preserved more than 200,000 acres of redwood forest and helped establish 66 parks.

Lisa Mangat, California state park director, said her agency and the league “work through our state parks to support the health, inspiration and education of all Californians.

More than 30 million people visit a redwood park each year, the league says.

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