



NEWS RELEASE

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Oakland County Parks offering recreation vouchers to Oakland County veterans, active military members in honor of National Military Appreciation Month in May
Veterans also invited to special Dirt Day event set for Armed Forces Day on Saturday, May 18

OAKLAND COUNTY, MI – May 1, 2024 – Oakland County Parks (OCP) is recognizing individuals who have served or are currently serving in the military with a recreation voucher for one of the following:

- One free night at a campsite at either Addison Oaks County Park near Rochester or Groveland Oaks County Park in Holly
- One free visit to Red Oaks Waterpark in Madison Heights or Waterford Oaks Wave Pool in Waterford
- One free entry to Holly Oaks ORV Park

“Oakland County Parks is proud to recognize the sacrifices of our active duty members and veterans of military service to our nation,” Parks Director Chris Ward said. “We are pleased to offer this special recreation voucher during National Military Appreciation Month in recognition of the sacrifices they have made and continue to make on our behalf.”

The recreation vouchers are only valid for Oakland County residents who must show proof of residency and a U.S. Department of Defense Common Access Card (CAC) or a valid Michigan driver’s license with Veteran designation; an Oakland County, state or federal Veteran ID Card (VIC); or form DD214, DD256 or NGB22.

“As a veteran myself, I am excited to welcome veterans and active military to our parks whether they are looking for a relaxing evening under the stars at the campground or want to get out on the ORV trails for an exhilarating adventure in the dirt, rocks and water,” Jamie Weasel, park supervisor of Holly Oaks ORV Park and Groveland Oaks County Park and Campground, said.

Recreation vouchers must be claimed in person at one of the following locations:

- Addison Oaks County Park north of Rochester, 8 a.m.-9 p.m. daily, staff permitting – call 248-693-2432
- Groveland Oaks County Park in Holly, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday
- Independence Oaks County Park at the Park Office, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday
- Independence Oaks County Park at the Contact Station, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

- Lyon Oaks Golf Course Pro Shop, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. daily
- Lyon Oaks Dog Park, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday
- Red Oaks Nature Center, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday
- Red Oaks Dog Park, times vary – call 248-541-5030
- Waterford Oaks County Park at the Recreation Programs and Services Office, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

The vouchers are non-transferable and are limited to one per eligible person. Vouchers expire Dec. 31, 2024; however, the waterpark and wave pool typically close for the season in late August and the campgrounds close in October. Vouchers are subject to facility capacity restrictions as necessary.

Veterans and active military personnel are eligible for a free vehicle permit that offers access to trails, dog parks, playgrounds, beaches at Groveland Oaks and Independence Oaks (seasonal) and fishing spots through Dec. 31, 2029. They also receive discounts at five golf courses.

In addition, veterans are invited to join OCP for Armed Forces Day at Holly Oaks ORV Park from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, May 18. The park entry fee (a \$30 value) will be waived for veterans during this special one-day event, which is sponsored by LaFontaine Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram of Fenton. Veterans will also receive a swag bag when entering the park while supplies last.

For entry on Armed Forces Day, veterans must present either a valid Michigan driver's license with Veteran designation or an Oakland County, state or federal Veteran ID Card (VIC) or form DD214, DD256, DD257 or NGB22. The military forms noted are clearly identified with the form number in the lower-left corner of the form.

While park entry will be waived, ORV tags and flag are still required. Participants should enter at 14551 Shields Road in Holly. For more information on the Holly Oaks event, call 248-221-8040 or email OCPrecreation@oakgov.com.

For more information about OCP's facilities, recreation vouchers and free vehicle permits for eligible individuals, visit OaklandCountyParks.com, call 248-858-0916 or e-mail info@oaklandcountyparks.com.

For information on other events, visit OaklandCountyParks.com. Join the conversation on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [X](#).