

## DNR salutes our veterans!

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources would like to thank both those currently serving and those who have previously served in the armed forces. A number of opportunities exist to enjoy Wisconsin's outdoors, and to thank you for your past and present service, we would like to remind you of some privileges offered by the department.

- Resident Purple Heart recipients can purchase a [Conservation Patron license](#) at a reduced rate (Resident - \$10, Nonresident - \$161). In addition, a non-resident Purple Heart recipient may receive hunting, fishing and trapping approvals at [resident rates](#).
- Returning Wisconsin resident veterans will receive a one-time free small game, archery, gun deer or annual fishing license. Veterans who wish to receive a free hunting or fishing license **must first** contact the [Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs \(WDVA\)](#) to determine their eligibility for this program. Eligible veterans will receive a voucher code that may be redeemed at the DNR within 365 days of discharge. Voucher codes may be redeemed in one of two ways:
  1. In person at any [DNR Service Center](#), or
  2. By calling the DNR Call Center at 1-888-WNDRINFO (1-888-936-7463) to receive your free license by mail or to arrange for pick up at any DNR Service Center.
- Veterans may qualify for a one-time fee waiver for an occupational or professional license. To find out if you qualify for the fee waiver program or to find a complete list of eligible Wisconsin licenses visit [Department of Veterans Affairs \[exit DNR\]](#). Veteran's eligibility related questions should be directed to the Veteran's Benefit Resource Center via [web chat \[exit DNR\]](#), [email](#) or phone 1-800-947-8387. A list of licenses that qualify for a veterans license fee waiver can be found [here](#).
- Certain Wisconsin resident disabled veterans and former prisoners of war are eligible to receive waivers of vehicle admission and trail pass fees. To apply for this fee waiver, follow the instructions below.
  1. Download and complete the [Disabled Veteran Free State Park/Forest/Trail Pass Application \[PDF\]](#)
  2. Take the completed application to your [County Veteran Service Officer \[exit DNR\]](#) (CVSO) to certify. The application must be signed and stamped by the CVSO.
  3. Mail the certified application to:

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Bureau of Parks and Recreation  
101 S Webster St  
PO Box 7921  
Madison WI 53707

The Bureau of Parks and Recreation will mail you an identification card to be presented each time you visit a state park, forest or recreation area. The park, forest or recreation area will then issue a courtesy pass for the day. When using state trails requiring a trail pass, carry the identification card with you.

- You can find more information [here](#).

Once again, we thank you for your service, and feel privileged to be in a position to give back.

*Cathy Stepp*

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