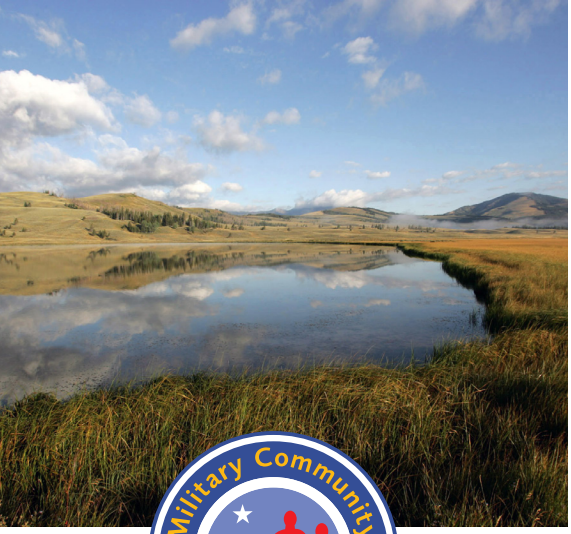

Military Community and Family Policy Fact Sheet

America the Beautiful Military Pass Program

No-cost admission dates

All military families, regardless of activation status, can enjoy access to national parks at no cost on key dates throughout 2020:

- Jan. 20: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- April 18-26: National Park Week
- Aug. 25: National Park Service birthday
- Sept. 26: National Public Lands Day
- Nov. 11: Veterans Day

Additional information

The National Park Service
http://www.nps.gov/findapark/passes.htm

Background

The Department of the Interior, in partnership with the Department of Defense, has made a commitment to support military families and expand their opportunities to engage in outdoor experiences in national parks by establishing the America the Beautiful military pass program. This program provides access, at no cost, to more than 2,000 federal recreation sites — all national parks and national wildlife refuges, national forests and grasslands, and lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation and Army Corps of Engineers.

Passes may be obtained by visiting a federal recreation site in-person and showing a Common Access Card or Military ID. They are available to all active duty, National Guard and reserve members of all armed services to include the Coast Guard, dependents of U.S. military members with DD Form 1173, and U.S. military cadets.

Veterans with a disability rating and military family members with special needs may also be eligible for a lifetime Access Pass, at no cost, through the America the Beautiful program.

Highlights

The America the Beautiful military pass program and installation Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs provide military families with outdoor opportunities to be active, learn and have fun together. They also promote the following key messages:

- Active living, positive self-esteem and esprit de corps contribute to mission readiness.
- Feeling healthy and fit — physically and emotionally — helps build resilience and contributes to personal and professional success.
- National parks provide a variety of educational, recreational, cultural and conservation experiences in locations across the country.
- Park activities, like hiking and camping, help families stay active and can strengthen family relationships.