



PRESS RELEASE

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Day-Use Fees to Increase Slightly at Armstrong Redwoods State Natural Reserve and Austin Creek State Recreation Area *Fee Increase Goes into Effect Friday, March 15, 2019*

GUERNEVILLE, Calif. — California State Parks and the Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods announced today that the day-use fee at Armstrong Redwoods State Natural Reserve (SNR) and Austin Creek State Recreation Area (SRA) will increase from \$8.00 to \$10.00 per vehicle, starting Friday, March 15, 2019. This fee is consistent with other day-use fees in the State Park System.

The last fee increase was 10 years ago in 2009. This rate adjustment will provide the needed funds for structural maintenance and improvements across both parks.

In 2017/2018, there were 1.1 million visitors who enjoyed Armstrong Redwoods SNR and Austin Creek SRA, an increase of 40,000 people from the year before. Revenue from the fee increase will allow State Parks and its non-profit partner, Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods (Stewards), to keep up with these increased demands in order to provide a good visitor experience.

Located three miles north of Guerneville on Armstrong Woods Road, [Armstrong Redwoods State Natural Reserve](#) consists of 805 acres of ancient coast redwoods. Temperatures are moderate, with fog year-round.

The park shares a boundary with [Austin Creek State Recreation Area](#), which has nearly 6,000 acres with trees that provide a bright and sunny experience in the spring and fall. Summer temperatures here can reach 100 degrees. In addition to hiking and bicycling activities, visitors can find the historic buildings of Pond Farm Pottery at Austin Creek SRA. This was the home, workshop and school of the internationally renowned ceramic artist, Marguerite Wildenhain, who settled here after World War II. Formerly a student at

Germany's famous Bauhaus school of design, Wildenhain enjoyed and was inspired by the peace and natural beauty of this area.

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California State Parks provides for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation. Learn more at www.parks.ca.gov.

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Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods (Stewards) is a non-profit organization that partners with the Russian River Sector of California State Parks to promote, restore and protect the natural and cultural resources in our parks. The sector includes Armstrong Redwoods State Natural Reserve (outside Guerneville), Austin Creek State Recreation Area (a park Stewards is now operating), Sonoma Coast State Park (from Bodega Bay to Jenner). Learn more at <https://www.stewardscr.org/>.