

Summer 2016

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EVERYONE can enjoy national parks & recreation sites this summer!

## Access Pass for National Recreation Sites

This summer, many families will visit one of the thousands of national parks and recreation areas across the U.S. to explore and relax. Most parks charge an entrance fee, however visitors with disabilities can enjoy a trip at no cost through an Access Pass.

The Interagency Access Pass is issued by the U.S. federal government to U.S. citizens or permanent residents of any age, who have a permanent disability. The pass provides free lifetime access to more than 2,000 recreation sites that are managed by the National Park Service, the National Forest Service, the Fish & Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Bureau of Reclamation. In addition to free entry to these recreation sites, the Access Pass also provides the holder with discounts on amenity fees such as camping, boat launching, and guided tours. The pass is a great way for individuals with disabilities to enjoy a fun, affordable summer getaway!

For more information about Access Pass requirements and how to apply, visit <http://store.usgs.gov/pass/access.html>.

## Yosemite National Park Offers Deaf Services

Yosemite National Park is a popular choice for vacationers who wish to take in nature's wonders. All national parks provide accessibility services for visitors with disabilities, though each park's array of services is different. Yosemite National Park in California offers a unique experience for deaf visitors.

The park has a year-round Deaf Services Coordinator who is also an American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter. Yosemite is the only national park to have a deaf services program with dedicated staff all year round. This allows deaf visitors to have a full experience at the park, no matter what season they choose to visit.

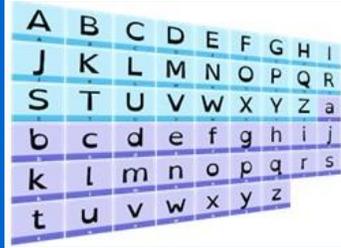
In addition to staff and interpreting services, Yosemite provides a public videophone in its lodge as well as assistive listening devices that visitors can use for any park program. A collection of ASL videos with captions is also available on the park's website to help deaf visitors become more acquainted with the park.

More information on Yosemite National Park's Deaf Services can be found at <https://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/deafservices.htm>.

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## Fonts for Easier Readability

Individuals with dyslexia have difficulty reading printed words, often because some letters look similar and the reader swaps, inverts, or rotates them. Other times the lack of space between letters makes it difficult for readers with dyslexia to separate and distinguish between letters or words. To help combat some of these issues, multiple designers have created typefaces that increase readability for individuals with dyslexia and other print disabilities.



*OpenDyslexic font for individuals with print disabilities.*

OpenDyslexic is a free downloadable font with letters that feature heavy-weighted bottoms to help prevent readers from rotating them, as well as unique letter shapes to avoid swapping them. Wider spacing between letters helps readers to keep letters and words separate. More information can be found at <http://opendyslexic.org/>.

Similarly, the Dyslexie font was designed with weighted bottoms and wider spacing. In addition, this font features slanted parts to avoid inverting or flipping letters, larger openings within letters, and bolder punctuation marks to prevent words and sentences from running together. The Dyslexie font can be downloaded for free for individual users, or can be purchased for \$59 for schools and businesses. Visit <https://www.dyslexiefont.com/en/> for more information or to download.

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## Resource Spotlight: ProfitABILITY Toolkit for Employers

Recently, the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs amended Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Federal contractors and subcontractors are now required to take measurable action toward employing individuals with disabilities. Some employers who hold federal contracts may find it difficult to navigate through the details of the legislation and understand how the requirements affect them.

Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania is excited to provide the ProfitABILITY toolkit to employers. The toolkit is a free, comprehensive, and easy-to-understand guide to the compliance requirements of Section 503. While it is geared toward employers who are considered to be federal contractors under the legislation, the ProfitABILITY toolkit can serve as a resource for any organization - large or small - to implement best practices for recruiting, hiring, retaining, and advancing workers with disabilities.

For more information about the ProfitABILITY toolkit and to download, visit <http://www.goodwillswpa.org/profitability>.

The ProfitABILITY toolkit can help employers strengthen their workforce by employing qualified individuals with disabilities!

Alternative formats of this newsletter are available upon request.

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