

*Section A*  
*Introduction*

# Community Profile

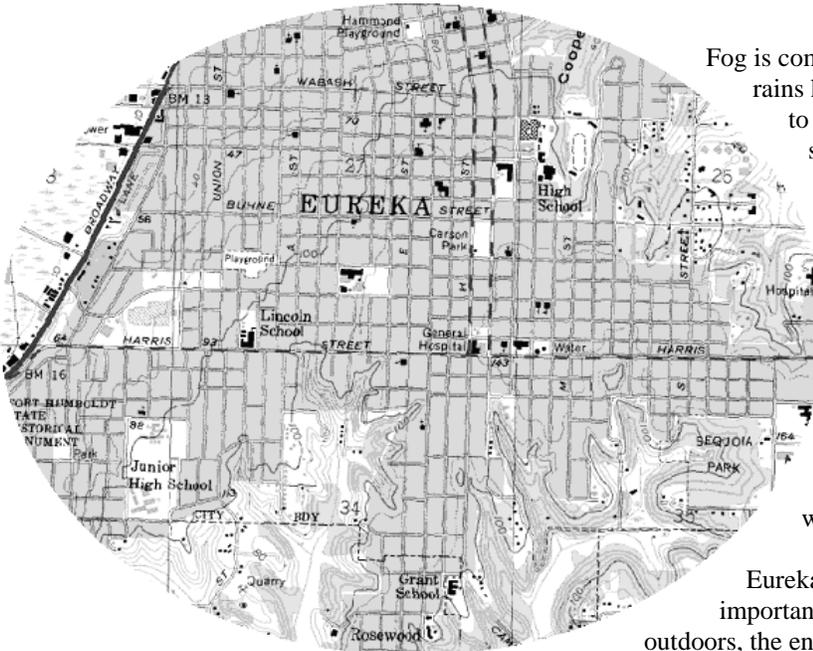
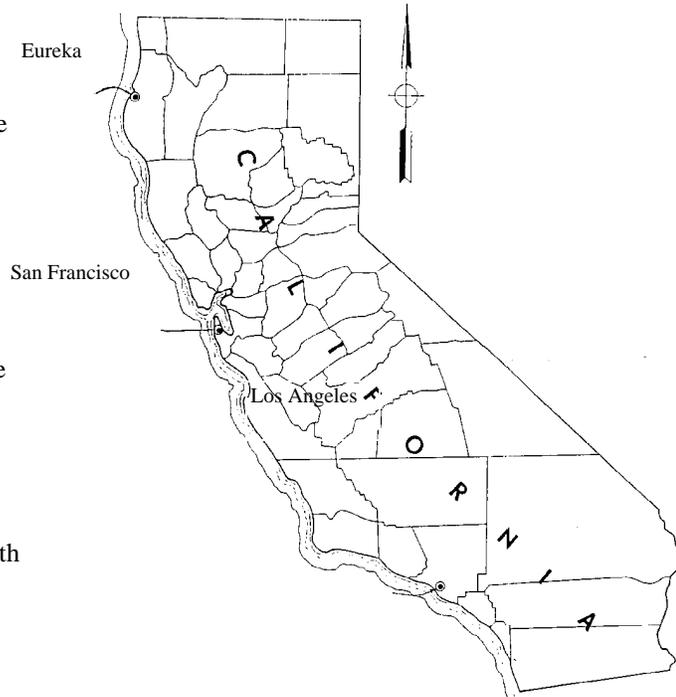


Bustling into Western history during the famous California Gold Rush, the City of Eureka thrived for many years on the area's rich abundance of redwood timber. Quickly establishing itself as the commercial hub of the North Coast, Eureka fused a stunning array of Victorian architecture with the rugged beauty of the Northwest to create a truly unique community.

Today, Eureka is an established *State Historical Landmark* due to the presence of so many examples of Victorian and other "period" architecture. Many of these homes and buildings have been preserved and painstakingly restored. Eureka still maintains the highest level of Victorian homes per capita in California.

Eureka is located on Humboldt Bay, with the Pacific Ocean to the west and mountains and forests to the east, north, and south. It is the North Coast's largest coastal town north of San Francisco and the central location for the area's government, commerce and culture.

A moderate climate prevails, summer and winter.



Fog is common. Bring your umbrella, because it rains here - fall, winter, and spring. Due to the geographical diversity of the area, summer temperatures in the nearby mountains and in Southern Humboldt County, just minutes from Eureka, range into the 90's.

Eureka's population is approximately 27,052. Another 14,000 reside immediately adjacent to the city limits. Hence, the greater Eureka population is approximately 41,000. About 100,000 people, or 85 percent of Humboldt County's total population, live within a 20-mile radius of Eureka.

Eureka and the nearby cities reflect what is important to our community - family, work, the outdoors, the environment, the arts, and community service. In Humboldt County the lifestyle is relaxed. Many

residents live in rural settings, away from neighbors, yet within minutes of jobs, schools, rivers, woods, and the beach. Traffic jams and crowded beaches don't exist and natural beauty is available at every turn.

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Shopping, services, and recreation are abundant in Eureka. As “the hub city” for Northwestern California, Eureka offers a broad range of cultural resources and amenities such as museums, libraries, parks, galleries, theaters, fitness and recreational facilities along with retail outlets, medical care, automotive services, restaurants, accommodations, professional, and technical services.

Fun and fitness are valued in Humboldt County, but activities aren’t limited to golf, tennis, dancing, swimming, bicycling, organized sports, or classes. National and state parks, National Forests, acreage managed by the Bureau of Land Management, and proximity to rivers and wilderness areas provide terrific hiking, hunting, fishing, sailing, rafting, and camping. The Eureka area is also especially attractive to recreational and sports enthusiasts, boasting some of the most exciting ocean and river fishing in the world.

Eureka’s visitors enjoy friendly and unpretentious attitudes among the people they meet.

People are generous here and many examples of this generosity and commitment to community exist in Eureka, where people live and work together to build community assets.

The raw pioneer spirit that grabbed opportunity at every chance has evolved into a more sophisticated version - a version that looks at the new century demands of tomorrow. Our residents are active in business and government giving the community a vision of the future. City and community leaders along with governmental agencies are setting a swift and concerted pace on behalf of the community to achieve exceptional progress. They acknowledge that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts because Eureka is a place where voices and viewpoints are heard.

