

Volunteer Opportunities at The Maritime Aquarium

Name _____

Street _____

Apt.# _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Primary Number _____

E-Mail _____

I would like to register for Volunteer Training

March

June

October

Please send this form to
Donna Schlegel
Director, Volunteer and Community Services
The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk
10 North Water Street Norwalk, CT 06854



Volunteer

You can make a difference!



For more details visit
www.maritimeaquarium.org
or call 203-852-0700



Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteering at The Maritime Aquarium offers a level of involvement beyond that of the casual visitor. The Aquarium has volunteer programs for everyone - young and old, night people and day people. Those who work during the week can get involved in evening, weekend, or even overnight programs.

As a volunteer, you become a member of The Maritime Aquarium family and learn more about the maritime history of Long Island Sound and its unique and wonderful marine life. Volunteer activities enable you to participate in and support the Aquarium's education and research programs while meeting and sharing time with people who have similar interests.

The Role of Volunteers

Maritime Aquarium volunteers provide an invaluable service to the Aquarium. This group of talented and dedicated individuals functions in a critical role as an extension of the paid staff.

Volunteer assignments are varied and range from administrative responsibilities to frontline jobs throughout the Aquarium.

While the position is unpaid, volunteers are vital to the operation of the facility. The Aquarium relies on the volunteer staff to interpret and protect its marine and maritime collections while enhancing the visitor experience. The volunteers commitment is critical to The Maritime Aquarium and its marine and maritime collection. Joining the volunteer program promises to be rewarding, challenging, and enjoyable.

Gallery Guides

Gallery Guides are needed 363 days a year to help visitors appreciate and learn more about Long Island Sound's rich maritime history and marine life. They are the Aquarium's primary interface with our visitors. They staff the Seal Pool, the Open Ocean Gallery, the Ray Touch Pool, the Touch Tank, and other exhibits throughout The Maritime Aquarium.

Assistants

The special skills of Assistants are used to support the mission of The Maritime Aquarium. These jobs include: Staffing the information desk, helping with special events, cataloging books and artifacts, assisting with office work, building exhibits and disseminating membership and program information.



Training

All volunteers are expected to successfully complete the Aquarium's Volunteer Training Program. Attendance and participation in this course are vital to the integrity and success of the Aquarium's Volunteer program. There are ten classes scheduled Tuesdays and Thursdays over a five-week period. This classroom activity is followed by an (8 to 12-hour) on the job training at volunteer stations in the Aquarium.

During this time an individual rotates through the key Gallery Guide stations.* A uniform polo shirt and name badge, are issued to graduates and are to be worn on duty. Upon completion of six months of active service, volunteers receive a complimentary membership to The Maritime Aquarium.

*Volunteer meetings are held from 7-9 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month.

Age

The minimum age for all volunteers is 15.

Cost

A \$40 registration fee is required for the Volunteer Training Program. This fee defrays the costs of training materials, name badge, and uniform polo shirt.

Time Commitment

A minimum of 10 hours a month is required to qualify as an active member of The Maritime Aquarium Volunteer Staff. A specific schedule is established upon completion of the Volunteer Training Course.