



Volunteer Positions

At Blue Ocean Society for Marine Conservation, we rely on our volunteer community to make our wide variety of programs a success! Volunteer opportunities vary seasonally due to changes in weather and our needs. Most of our opportunities require little training, while a few positions require specific experience. The first step to volunteering is filling out the application on the volunteer webpage.

Beach Clean-ups

- Beach Clean-up Helper
- Beach Clean-up Leader

Fishing Line Recycling Program

- Recycling Station Monitor

Education

- Blue Ocean Discovery Center Educator
- School & Camp Program Educator

Events

- Event Volunteer
- Events Committee

Microplastics Research

- Microplastics Sampling Helper
- Microplastics Sampling Leader
- Microplastics Sorting Helper

Behind the Scenes

- Virtual Volunteering
- Office Support

Board of Directors

- Board Member



Look for this bird which denotes volunteer opportunities that require experience.

Beach Clean-up Helper

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

Key Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pick up marine debris from the beach. • Follow safety guidelines and instructions specified by the clean-up leader. • Assist the Beach Clean-up Leader (carry a trash bag, empty trash bags in the appropriate receptacle, record weight of debris collected, etc.) • To the best of your ability, answer questions from beach clean-up participants about marine debris, Marine Debris Tracker app, and Blue Ocean Society, or divert questions to the clean-up leader. • Represent BOS with a professional, friendly, and enthusiastic attitude.
Time Commitment	Clean-ups are typically 2 hours long. The schedule is flexible. You sign up to volunteer at a clean-up as they are announced via email, typically 1-2 weeks before. Most clean-ups occur from June to September.
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical ability to collect marine debris on a sandy and rocky beach for 1.5-2 hours. • Comfortable conversing with members of the public as we clean the beach together. • Familiarity with Blue Ocean Society's mission. • A positive attitude toward cleaning beaches and potential solutions to marine debris issues. • Proficiency using a smartphone is a plus.
Location	Beaches ranging from York, Maine to Salisbury, Massachusetts. Most clean-ups occur on New Hampshire beaches.
BOS Training Required	Understanding of the Marine Debris Tracker app.
Supervisor	Danielle Kamberalis Outreach Coordinator
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a growing knowledge of the marine debris on New Hampshire and surrounding shores.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feel the satisfaction of beautifying a community and protecting marine ecosystems from the dangers of marine debris.• Connect with likeminded people who want to take action to protect and preserve shorelines and oceans.
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Beach Clean-up Leader

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

Key Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Instruct participants on clean-up guidelines, safety concerns, and data collection method.• Introduce BOS and the issues associated with marine debris.• Clean the beach with the group.• Answer questions about marine debris, Marine Debris Tracker app, and Blue Ocean Society to the best of your ability.• Submit data to Blue Ocean Society through the Marine Debris Tracker app or paper data cards.• Dispose of trash in proper receptacles specified by Danielle.• Represent BOS with a professional, friendly, and enthusiastic attitude.
Time Commitment	Clean-ups are typically 2 hours long. The schedule is flexible. Sign up to lead clean-ups as they are announced via email, typically 1-3 weeks before. Most clean-ups occur from June to September.
Location	Beaches ranging from York, Maine to Salisbury, Massachusetts. Most clean-ups occur on New Hampshire beaches.
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Familiarity with the BOS mission and marine debris program.• An interest in marine debris types and their impacts to marine ecosystems.• Physical ability to collect marine debris on a sandy and rocky beach for 1.5-2 hours and carry bags that weigh up to 30 pounds.• Comfortable public speaking with groups of 8-25.• A positive attitude toward cleaning beaches and potential solutions to marine debris issues.
Experience Required	Previous experience cleaning beaches, preferably with Blue Ocean Society using the Marine Debris Tracker app.
BOS Training Required	Beach Clean-up Leader Training (a one-hour session on the beach) and shadow some BOS clean-ups.
Supervisor	Danielle Kamberalis Outreach Coordinator

Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a growing knowledge of the marine debris present on NH shores, its sources, and ways to prevent it. • Feel the satisfaction of beautifying a community and protecting ocean ecosystems from the negative effects of marine debris. • Connect with likeminded people who take action to protect and preserve shorelines and oceans.
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Blue Ocean Discovery Center

Educator

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

Key Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guide visitors through marine science exhibits. • Ensure visitors are careful with critters in the touch tank. • Answer questions about marine life, BOS, and the Hampton area as best you can, or divert questions to staff. • Greet the public and encourage them to come inside. • Encourage donations to BOS where appropriate. • Represent BOS with a professional, friendly, and enthusiastic attitude.
Time Commitment	You build your own schedule! We prefer to have Discovery Center volunteers on a regularly weekly basis, but you get to decide what day and time works for you. Shifts can be as short as 2-3 hours.
Location	<p>Blue Ocean Discovery Center 180 Ocean Boulevard Hampton, New Hampshire</p> <p>*On the Hampton strip just north of the Seashell Stage.</p>
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comfortable with public speaking. • Comfortable working with children. • An interest in learning about marine life common to the New Hampshire seacoast. No in-depth knowledge is required. • Ability to walk one mile along the Hampton strip from a free parking lot. Metered parking is available for \$2 per hour, but on busy weekends it is often full by morning.
BOS Training Required	All training is provided onsite.
Supervisor	<p>Cathy Silver Blue Ocean Discovery Center Director</p> <p>Niki Sullivan Blue Ocean Educator</p>

Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a growing knowledge of marine life in the Gulf of Maine and the historic Hampton Beach area. • Gain experience speaking to and teaching the public. • Connect with likeminded people who care about protecting local marine ecosystems. • Share your passion to inspire the public to learn more and take action. • We can verify volunteer hours toward a community service requirement for school, college, honor society, etc.
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School & Camp Program Educator

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

Key Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teach youth and public audiences about whales in the Gulf of Maine and the threats that face them with a positive, solutions-focused mindset. • Commit small amounts of information about whales and marine debris to memory at a time. • Set up and break down educational materials before and after each program. • Represent BOS with a professional, friendly, and enthusiastic attitude.
Time Commitment	Schedule is flexible. Sign up to volunteer at education programs as they are announced via email.
Location	Schools, summer camps, care facilities, and other venues under 1.5 hours from Portsmouth, NH.
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comfortable with public speaking. • Comfortable working with children. • An interest in learning about whales and the threats that face them. No in-depth knowledge is required. • Able to stand for hours at a time and play with children.
BOS Training Required	All training is provided onsite.
Supervisor	BOS Education Staff: Danielle, Niki, and Cynde
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a growing knowledge of whales in the Gulf of Maine, marine debris, and microplastics/microfibers pollution. • Gain experience teaching youth and public audiences. • Possibility to assist in the development of new education programs or assessment of existing programs. • Connect with likeminded people who care about protecting local marine ecosystems. • Share your passion for marine life to inspire children to learn more and take action. • We can verify volunteer hours toward a community service requirement for school, college, honor society, etc.

Microplastics Sampling Helper

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

Key Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist the Microplastics Sampling Leader with carrying supplies and gathering, sifting, and bagging sand samples. Answer questions from the public about the microplastics project to the best of your ability or divert questions to the leader.
Time Commitment	Schedule is flexible. Sign up to sample microplastics as new dates are announced each month via email. We sample each site once a month. Sampling typically takes 1-2 hours per beach.
Location	Beaches in Hampton, Rye, and Seabrook.
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical ability to walk through sand while carrying buckets of supplies and sand samples, sometimes in hot, sunny weather. Able to sit or kneel on the beach for 10-15 minutes at a time.
BOS Training Required	All training is provided onsite.
Supervisor	Danielle Kamberalis Outreach Coordinator Onsite contact: Microplastics Sampling Leader (varies by site)
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a growing awareness of microplastics pollution in local beaches and its impacts. Gain experience in field sampling. Spend time outdoors on the beach while getting exercise! Connect with likeminded people who are interested in monitoring and preserving our local beaches. We can verify volunteer hours toward a community service requirement for school, college, honor society, etc.



Microplastics Sampling Leader

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

Key Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set sampling quadrats based on a map and landmarks specified by BOS. • Gather, sift and bag small amounts of sand from the beach surface. • Collect samples monthly from April to October according to our easy-to-follow procedures at one or more local beaches of your choice. • Drop samples off with BOS at your convenience. • Potentially
Time Commitment	Schedule is flexible. Sign up to sample microplastics as new dates are announced each month via email. We sample each site once a month. Sampling typically takes 15-30 minutes per site.
Location	Beaches in Hampton, Rye, and Seabrook.
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical ability to walk through sand while carrying buckets of supplies and sand samples, sometimes in hot, sunny weather. • Able to sit or kneel on the beach for 10-15 minutes at a time. • Organized and able to follow simple yet detailed sampling procedures. • Interest in monitoring and preserving the quality of our local beaches.
BOS Training Required	We will train you and provide the necessary supplies.
Supervisor	Danielle Kamberalis Outreach Coordinator Onsite contact: Microplastics Sampling Leader (varies by site)
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a growing awareness of microplastics pollution in local beaches and its impacts. • Gain experience in field sampling. • Spend time outdoors on the beach while getting exercise!

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connect with likeminded people who are interested in monitoring and preserving our local beaches.• We can verify volunteer hours toward a community service requirement for school, college, honor society, etc.
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Microplastics Sorting Helper

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

Key Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sort microplastics pieces from sand samples. Count, identify, and record the types of plastics that make up the microplastic pieces using a key. Store the microplastics samples until you can return them to BOS.
Time Commitment	Sorting sessions are usually scheduled for 2-3 hours. Each sample varies as to how much time it takes to process. Some samples have lots of sand and microplastics to separate, while others required less time and work.
Location	BOS office in Portsmouth or your home.
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to sort through tiny pieces of sand and debris. Interest in supporting the microplastics research program. Ability to notice small detail and separate organic matter from microplastics pieces. Training will provide more instructions and guidance about this.
BOS Training Required	Microplastics Sorting Training will be provided.
Supervisor	Danielle Kamberalis Outreach Coordinator
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a growing awareness of microplastics pollution on local beaches and its impacts. Gain experience with microplastics research. Connect with a community of likeminded people who are interested in monitoring and preserving our local beaches. We can verify volunteer hours toward a community service requirement for school, college, honor society, etc.

Fishing Line Recycling Station Monitor



Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

Key Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel to a recycling station on a regular schedule to check if anyone has deposited fishing line. • Empty the container's contents, separating the fishing line from hooks and other items. • Store fishing line until you meet with Stephanie who will send it away to be recycled into plastic parts like playground benches. • Spread the word about the recycling stations and answer questions from fisherman and the public about where the fishing line goes and the importance of recycling it.
Time Commitment	Stations should be checked on a monthly or biweekly basis depending on the amount of foot traffic. You make your own schedule and choose the number of stations you will monitor.
Location	10 locations throughout New Hampshire (Portsmouth, Rye, Hampton) and Massachusetts (Seabrook, and Dennis)
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comfortable separating fishing line from sharp hooks and trash that is sometimes disposed of in the recycling stations. • Ability to check the station on a regular schedule throughout the season.
BOS Training Required	We will send you brief guidelines for maintaining the recycling stations.
Supervisor	Stephanie Burrows Blue Ocean Society Volunteer
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help reduce entanglements and plastic pollution in marine ecosystems by recycling this long-lived, plastic material. • Spend time visiting a coastal community of your choice. • Connect with likeminded people who care about the wellbeing of local marine life. • We can verify volunteer hours toward a community service requirement for school, college, honor society, etc.

*If you know of a marina, pier, or other location that could use a fishing line recycling station, please email programs@blueoceansociety.org.

Events Volunteer

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

Key Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist with the planning and/or execution of the Run for the Ocean 5k, New Hampshire Coastal Clean-up, and other fundraisers and events in the community. Examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Checking participants into an event Helping with set-up or breakdown Securing, picking up, or dropping off supplies Meeting with staff to assist with event planning (virtually or in-person) Hanging up posters in the community
Time Commitment	Schedule is flexible. You sign up to help with the events that work with your schedule. We host both daytime and evening events on weekdays and weekends. Given the ongoing pandemic, most Blue Ocean Society events are virtual or suspended temporarily. However, we are looking for folks to help with the virtual events and brainstorm new ones!
Location	Portsmouth and Hampton, NH and the surrounding community.
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comfortable speaking with the public in small groups. Focused and eager to lend a hand during your volunteer shift.
Supervisor	Event Leader – BOS staff or Events Committee member
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the BOS mission to protect marine life in the Gulf of Maine by assisting with community outreach and fundraising. Learn skills in communication, event planning, and outreach. Gain hands-on experience in event planning and fundraising, two essential components of most non-profit organizations. Connect with local businesses, non-profits, and community members invested in protecting marine life. We can verify volunteer hours toward a community service requirement for school, college, honor society, etc.

Events Committee Member

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

Key Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work as a team with Blue Ocean Staff and events committee members to plan and execute fundraisers and other events in the community. Examples include the Run for the Ocean 5k and the New Hampshire Coastal Clean-up. • Coordinate and assist with the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Securing, picking up, and dropping off supplies. ○ Reaching out to local businesses and venues. ○ Set-up and break down. ○ Developing flyers and advertising materials.
Time Commitment	<p>We host both daytime and evening events on weekdays and weekends. Members of the committee should be available to meet as needed and complete tasks in their personal time. Meeting schedule is flexible. Given the ongoing pandemic, most Blue Ocean events are virtual or suspended temporarily. However, we are looking for folks to help with the virtual events and brainstorm new ones!</p>
Location	Portsmouth and Hampton, NH and the surrounding community.
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comfortable with public speaking in small groups. • Comfortable reaching out to partners and local businesses. • Focused and eager to lend a hand wherever needed. • Organized and punctual. • Access to a personal vehicle is helpful. • Experience planning events or attending Blue Ocean events is preferred but not required.
Supervisor	Event Leader - BOS staff or fellow committee member
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the BOS mission to protect marine life in the Gulf of Maine through community outreach and fundraising. • Learn skills in leadership, event planning, and outreach. • Connect with local businesses, non-profits, and community members invested in protecting marine life. • We can verify volunteer hours toward a community service requirement for school, college, honor society, etc.

Virtual Volunteer

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

Key Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist with computer tasks such as data entry, marketing, research, and writing. Examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Search school websites for email addresses of local teachers to compile into a teacher directory. We promote our education offerings through email. ○ Write a 400-word post for the Blue Ocean Society blog. ○ Proofread a document and return it within 48 hours. ○ Develop designs for a flyer, t-shirt, or other promotional materials using BOS style guidelines.
Time Commitment	Schedule is flexible. Most tasks can be completed any time of day from any location. Sign up to help with tasks when you have free time.
Location	Portsmouth and Hampton, NH and the surrounding community.
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy access to a computer. • Familiarity with Microsoft and Google programs preferred. • Writing experience is helpful.
Supervisor	Danielle Kamberalis Outreach Coordinator
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the BOS mission to protect marine life in the Gulf of Maine by completing behind the scenes tasks. • Learn about the day-to-day tasks needed to support a growing non-profit organization.

Office Support

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

Key Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform administrative and organizational tasks to support the day-to-day success of BOS including but not limited to the examples below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Work with a team of volunteers to stuff envelopes to prepare our annual mailing fundraiser. ○ Organize BOS education program supplies, fundraiser materials, outreach materials, etc. ○ Help process and prepare purchases from our online store including whale adoptions and apparel.
Time Commitment	Sign up to help with tasks as you have free time.
Location	Most office support is needed in our office in Portsmouth, NH. Some assistance may be needed in the Blue Ocean Discovery Center in Hampton, NH.
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous experience in an office setting is helpful but not required. • Ability to follow detailed instructions while remaining organized. • Familiarity with Microsoft Office suite and Google suite is helpful.
Supervisor	Danielle Kamberalis Outreach Coordinator
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the BOS mission to protect marine life in the Gulf of Maine by completing behind the scenes tasks. • Connect with a community of likeminded individuals who are passionate about the protection of marine life in the Gulf of Maine. • Learn about the day-to-day tasks needed to support a growing non-profit organization.

Board of Directors

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

Key Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with board members and Executive Director, Jen Kennedy to discuss the organization's pursuit of its mission and strategic plan. • Utilize your perspective, expertise, and network to support the sustained growth of BOS as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in unique ways. • Attend BOS events to maintain an awareness of the organization's latest work.
Time Commitment	The board meets monthly, typically in virtual format. Board members are also expected to engage in community events and utilize their networks in connection with the sustained growth of BOS.
Location	Meetings are held virtually and in-person in accordance with current pandemic guidelines. Most BOS events and fundraisers take place at our office in Carey Cottage in Portsmouth, NH.
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A desire to engage with fellow board members, local professionals, community members, businesses, and non-profits to support the sustained growth of BOS. • A vested interest in marine conservation in the Gulf of Maine, specifically the protection of whales. • Background in business or non-profit management.
Supervisor	Charles Raeburn Board Chair Jen Kennedy Executive Director
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the BOS mission to protect marine life in the Gulf of Maine. • Grow your knowledge of marine conservation issues in the Gulf of Maine. • Opportunities to pursue new professional experiences and relationships. • Connect with like-minded professionals who share your passion for non-profit leadership and marine conservation.

Looking for More Ways to Get Involved?

Clean a Beach

Get friends and family together or clean a beach on your own! Beautify the coastline while protecting marine life from the dangers of marine debris. Check out our [Digital Beach Clean-up Kit](#) which outlines our clean-up process including how to use [Marine Debris Tracker](#); the app we use to gather data during beach clean-ups for our marine debris research program. If technology isn't your thing, print out a paper [Data Card](#) and mail it to us after your clean-up.

Adopt-a-Beach

Looking to get outside year-round? Adopt a Beach to clean once a month for one year. We provide the supplies and the know-how, and you set the schedule. Check out our [website](#) to learn more and fill out an application.

Attend an Event

Keep an eye on our social media posts or emails to learn about our upcoming events. We host a Run for the Ocean 5K, Recycled Art Contest, New Hampshire Coastal Clean-up, and more! You could also stop by the Blue Ocean Discovery Center on Ocean Boulevard in Hampton to learn about marine life.

Adopt a Whale or Make a Donation

Visit our online [shop](#) to adopt a whale, purchase Blue Ocean Society apparel, or make a donation to support our programs. Whale adoptions make great gifts!

Follow us!

Stay up to date on the latest happenings at Blue Ocean Society by following us on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#). Read our [blog](#) to learn about whales, marine debris, and the latest Blue Ocean news. You can also sign up for our [email list](#) to hear about upcoming events!