



Microplastics

Research

Volunteer Positions



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



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	Marine Debris Program 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.
--	---

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	Marine Debris Program 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.

Questions? Email volunteer@blueoceansociety.org