



BARNEGAT BAY VOLUNTEER MASTER NATURALIST (BBVMN) VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

While some of these programs may cover the entire state, only volunteer hours provided within the Barnegat Bay watershed (specific Ocean and Monmouth Counties) can be counted for BBVMN hours, once the 40-hour requirement is in place again, after the pandemic.

CATTUS ISLAND COUNTY PARK: 1170 Cattus Island Blvd., Toms River, NJ 08753

Contact: Nicole Vernachio nvernachio@co.ocean.nj.us (732) 270-6960

Currently, volunteer work is limited to trail work. This includes walking long distances, chipping, raking, lopping and cutting vegetation. Please check back in the future. Once we are ready to provide group programs, we will need volunteers to assist staff with school classes and weekend programs, as well as feeding, and cleaning native reptiles and fish.

CLOVERDALE FARM COUNTY PARK: 34 Cloverdale Road, Barnegat, NJ 08005

Contact: Patti Transferini ptransferini@co.ocean.nj.us (609)607-1861

Currently, volunteer work is limited to trail and bog work. When we are back to normal, volunteers will be needed to assist with educational groups and programs, trail monitoring, trail maintenance, weeding gardens, making small building repairs and restoring bogs. From March until August there is a need for monitoring our Bluebird trail.

JAKES BRANCH COUNTY PARK 1100 Double Trouble Road, Beachwood, NJ 08722

Contact: Michelle Urban murban@co.ocean.nj.us (732) 281-2750

Currently, volunteer opportunities include limited outdoor work, including gardening and light trail maintenance. We also need volunteers to help host the environmental center on weekends, welcoming visitors and answering questions. Once we are ready to re-engage the public, volunteers will be needed to facilitate drop-in educational programs for adults and children.

OCEAN COUNTY PARK: 659 Ocean Avenue (Rt. 88), Lakewood, NJ 08701

Contact: Chris Claus cclaus@co.ocean.nj.us (732) 552-1229

A new Visitor Center will be opening at Lake Shenandoah, directly across Rt. 88. Volunteers will be used to help staff the center once it's safe for the public.

WELLS MILLS COUNTY PARK: 905 Wells Mills Road, Waretown, NJ 08758

Contacts: Amanda Truhan atruhan@co.ocean.nj.us and German Georgieff (609) 971-3085

Currently, volunteers are needed to do trail work. Once we are ready to re-engage the public, we will need volunteer help at special events and for outdoor activities such as hiking and canoeing.

JACQUES COUSTEAU NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE (JCNERR):

Education, outreach and research programs at JCNERR and Rutgers Marine Field Station in Tuckerton; maintenance of the Grassle Marsh Trail at the JCNERR site.

Contact Lauren Hinger hinger@marine.rutgers.edu or Kaitlin Gannon gannon@marine.rutgers.edu.

TUCKERTON SEAPORT:

The mission of the Tuckerton Seaport is to preserve, present and interpret the rich maritime history, artistry, heritage and environment of the Jersey shore and the unique contributions of its baymen. Current volunteer opportunities include weeding the parking lot. Post COVID opportunities are available for interpreters, docents for the Life on the Edge Exhibit, curators, boat builders, gift shop personnel and support for special events.

Contact Regina Pistilli ReginaP@TuckertonSeaport.org 609-296-8868.

ISLAND BEACH STATE PARK:

Please contact IBSP Naturalist, Kelly Scott, to learn more about volunteer opportunities at Island Beach State Park, Kelly.Scott@dep.nj.gov.

FRIENDS OF ISLAND BEACH STATE PARK:

There are no current volunteer opportunities through FOIBSP due to Covid-19. Post COVID-19, volunteers support activities, educational and special events and programs that further public appreciation, participation and stewardship of the park. Website:

www.friendsofisp.org

CONSERVE WILDLIFE FOUNDATION OF NEW JERSEY, NJDEP

Contact CWFNJ directly to learn more about specific volunteer projects, including: Beach nesting birds, North American Bird Survey, Great Bay Terrapin Stewards, Bald Eagle Nesting Project. Website: www.ConserveWildlifeNJ.org

**EDWIN B. FORSYTHE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, NJDEP FISH & WILDLIFE,
Through FRIENDS OF FORSYTHE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

Volunteers assist biologists, guide tours, provide environmental education and maintain trails. Please contact Friends of Forsythe directly for specific information on current volunteer opportunities: fof@friendsofforsythe.org (609) 652-1665, Website: www.fws.gov.

PROJECT TERRAPIN

Assist Dr. John Wnek with various research projects concerning Northern Diamondback Terrapins and hatchlings. Projects also include retrieval of "ghost" crab pots in Barnegat Bay. Contact Dr. John Wnek directly for specifics: ProjectTerrapin@gmail.com.

CLEAN OCEAN ACTION

Help Clean Ocean Action (COA) "sweep" the beach at their annual **Fall Beach Sweeps**, on October 24. COA will be implementing COVID-19 safety protocols in accordance with state and CDC guidelines. More information on their website: www.cleanoceanaction.org.

SEDGE ISLAND NATURAL RESOURCE EDUCATION CENTER

Assist with scheduled clean-ups at Sedge Island Natural Resource Education Center. Please contact Karen Byrne Karen.Byrne@dep.nj.gov.