



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Habitat Restoration

Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area

Spring/Summer/Fall

SEEKING:

Volunteers to assist us in stewardship projects.

ABOUT THE PARK:

The Boston Harbor Islands national park area (BOHA) includes 34 islands and peninsulas situated within the large "C" shape of the Greater Boston shoreline. The islands are rich in natural and cultural resources, and are managed by a unique, 13-member Partnership. The Boston Harbor Islands Partnership represents a range of federal, state, city, and nonprofit agencies. Visit BostonIslands.com for more information.

ABOUT THE PROJECT: The goal of Island Habitat Restoration is to bring together a community of park stewards to protect and enhance the wild natural areas of the Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area. Our main task this year will be invasive plant control in areas of high natural value, including freshwater and salt marshes at Grape, Thompson, and Calf islands, a beautiful oak-hickory forest at Worlds End, the and the still-emerging woodlands and grasslands of Spectacle Island. While working side by side we will also share information about the natural and cultural history of the islands, take time to experience the beauty of the Park on the micro and macro-scales, and have fun!

DUTIES/WORKING ENVIRONMENT:

Work will consist of participation in stewardship projects. Work may consist of physical labor, support tasks, or both. Specific physical tasks may include the use of hand tools, manual removal of invasive plant species, clearing vegetation or trash from recreational areas, consolidating cleared debris in bags, tarps, or piles, carrying cleared debris to disposal or compost areas, using hand tools for vegetation clearing or site grading, seed collection, planting, watering, or trail maintenance. Additional support tasks may include making phone calls or sending emails, developing interpretive materials, providing interpretive information during programs, collecting and working with GIS data, program logistical support, or taking photographs. If mutually agreed upon, tasks may also include driving other volunteers and staff in support of scheduled activities.

QUALIFICATIONS/PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

Previous experience is not required. Field work takes place in variable weather conditions and involves boat travel and may require hiking over rough and variable terrain. Work may be physically demanding. The volunteer must be able to negotiate uneven, ungraded paths with heavy vegetation. If traveling to remote areas of the park, a 26-foot landing craft is used to access the islands. When traveling in small boats, rides can often be bumpy and landings are sometimes precarious; Lifejackets must be worn. Boat sure footing and appropriate footwear are necessary.

TIME COMMITMENT:

Schedule varies, Opportunities are offered throughout the Spring, Summer and Fall usually at least a half day (4-5hours) is required. There is no minimum required, drop-in help welcome, repeat volunteering is encouraged.

OTHER:

All materials will be provided, however volunteers may wish to bring their own work gloves, or hand tools. Volunteers are asked to dress appropriately for variable weather conditions and wear covered shoes, or boots. Bringing a hat, water, snacks, sunscreen and insect repellent are recommended.

TO APPLY OR FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact: Mary Raczko, Partnership Liaison
Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area
408 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 228, Boston, MA 02110
Phone: (617)223-8637 Email: Mary_Raczko@nps.gov