

Gateway National Recreation Area

Volunteer–In-Park Position Description

Job Title: Horseshoe Crab Volunteer

Job Description:

Volunteers are needed to conduct spawning surveys of horseshoe crabs on a beach in Jamaica Bay, a part of Gateway National Recreation Area. Surveys are conducted at high tide around the new and full moon cycle in the months of May and June for a total of 12 nights. No prior experience is necessary, volunteers will be trained to record the number and sex of spawning horseshoe crabs and report any sightings of tagged horseshoe crabs. The information collected is important in monitoring populations to help manage and conserve this important marine resource.

Responsibilities:

Must attend scheduled training

Follow established protocols, monitor and collect data during each survey

Return completed data sheets to project supervisor following each survey

Wear safety equipment and work in pairs

Wear footwear suitable for beach/bay intertidal zone (close toed/no flip flops)

Must be 18 years of age or accompanied by a parent or legal guardian

Provide basic personal equipment (flashlight or head lamp, cell phone for recording time and any emergency situations, work gloves)

Physical Demands:

Ability to lift 10 lbs safely

Ability to work in adverse weather conditions

Ability to walk 3 miles at night in sandy terrain

For more information please contact:

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