Want to be a part of the Great Bay NERR?
Volunteer...Connect with Your Community and Donate Your Time!

Exhibit Room Volunteer
Volunteers greet visitors and offer information about the center and the Reserve. They facilitate the discovery tank by showing correct animal handling and teaching the public about the animals that live in Great Bay. If you like to work with the public, and want to share your love of the bay, this could be the perfect opportunity for you. Volunteers sign up for three hour shifts (10 – 1 or 1 – 4) Tuesday through Saturday, May-October.

Volunteer Educator
Our educators lead small groups of students for our fall cultural history program or our spring natural history program. Each program has five to six components with the whole program lasting up to 3 hours. All training is provided and is offered in mid-April/September. New volunteers are paired with staff members or veteran volunteers and “shadow” the program until they feel comfortable leading a group on their own. Programs run weekday mornings and educators sign up for days that are convenient for them! Weekday mornings already busy for you? We also have educators at the waterfront in spring and summer to teach visitors about Horseshoe Crabs (spring) or low tide (summer). Volunteers sign up for 2 hour time slots around the tides, so days and times vary.

Grounds and Gardens Adoption Programs
We have several adoption programs at the center including gardens, trails, play boats, and our closed loop stream. Volunteers spend approximately 1 hour per week tending to their adopted area (more time once or twice a year for seasonal tasks). The schedule is flexible, so you can volunteer when it is convenient for you!

Stewardship Work Days & Field Research Volunteers
Work days consist of plantings, invasive species removal, building new garden beds, staining projects, and more. Workdays may be at the Discovery Center or at other Reserve properties, such as Great Bay’s Community Wildlife Garden. In the spring we need volunteers to assist with Horseshoe Crab monitoring at properties around the bay. In late summer/early fall we need volunteers to assist with field research on the saltmarsh. Volunteers spend the day outside on the marsh assisting the Research Coordinator with data collection.

Other Opportunities
We also have a phenology program that is a great way to become involved in citizen science, and it is very flexible! In addition each year we build up a watering crew and weeding crew for the Wildlife Garden. The weeding crew typically meets weekly and the watering crew is very flexible! There are sometimes specific volunteer opportunities that are short term and flexible. Data entry, small carpentry projects, and painting projects are a few examples. We also sometimes need hospitality help with Coastal Training Program workshops. When opportunities arise we will post information on our website on the calendar of events page.

Please Contact Melissa Brogle, Volunteer Coordinator, 603-778-0015, melissa.brogle@wildlife.nh.gov