

# 24 Ways to Volunteer in Summer 2024

## Brooklyn Bridge Park

- 1. Green Team** (minimum age: 16)  
Join a Team of volunteers to help beautify the park twice a month on Saturdays from 10am – 12pm – *no gardening experience required*
- 2. Coastal Cleanup** (minimum age: 16)  
Volunteers give back to the community by helping to remove trash and debris from the park's salt marshes and beaches throughout the summer months.
- 3. Education** (minimum age: 18)  
Volunteers play a dual role as volunteer educators and ambassadors within the Conservancy's environmental education program for two shifts per month. *Volunteer orientation and further training required.*
- 4. Zone Volunteers** (minimum age: 18)  
Work alongside Horticulture staff to care for the park's diverse landscapes and habitats. Volunteers should have experience and/or an interest in native plants, landscape design, or ecology. *There is an application process for this role, and a volunteer orientation and Zone Volunteer training is required.*
- 5. Docents/Tour Guides** (minimum age:18)  
Lead public park tours on weekends and weekday evenings at least once a month during the summer months. Volunteers represent Brooklyn Bridge Park and The Conservancy to visitors and play a crucial role in educating the public about the park's unique design, history, and ecology. *There is an application process for this role. Volunteers will be required to complete an orientation and a Docent Training Program*
- 6. Festival Volunteers** (minimum age: 18)  
Help deliver our public events by assisting with welcoming visitors, facilitating event activities, and setting-up and breaking-down events. Shifts last 2-3 hours and are generally available May-October. *Volunteers must attend an orientation prior to signing up for shifts*
- 7. Photographers** (minimum age: 18)  
Help capture images which represent Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy and its programs. Volunteer photographers will be credited for their work. *There is an application process for this role.*

## 8. Fishing Programs (minimum age: 16)

- Seining Volunteers help with fishing activities at Brooklyn Bridge Park, allowing the public to discover the underwater world of the East River and learn more about the amazing creatures living in this unique estuarine habitat. This is a catch and release program.
  - Volunteers responsibilities include, but are not limited to, helping Education staff drag a 20-foot seine net along the bottom of the river bed to catch, identifying and releasing fish and invertebrates, and assisting with crowd control at the shoreline. *Volunteers are required to attend training for this role.*
- Rod & Reel Volunteers assist Conservancy staff with fishing programs off Pier 5. This is a catch and release program. **Knowledge of fishing/angling preferred.** *Volunteers are required to attend training for this role.*

## 9. Kayak Volunteers | flexible 2 ½ hour shifts| must attend an orientation.

- **Pier (check-in) volunteers**  
Fit people into life vests, answering questions, and communicating with the dock volunteers.
- **Dock volunteers**  
Getting people into and out of kayaks, giving basic paddling instruction, and explaining the embayment boundaries and boathouse rules.
- **Safety boaters**  
Monitoring kayakers, giving on-water paddling instruction, and performing rescues should a kayaker get stuck in the pilings or fall out of their boat. **Only certified (specially trained) volunteers may sign up as safety boaters.**
- **Program leaders**  
Running the program, managing volunteers, answering questions, and executing opening/closing procedures. **Only approved (specially trained) volunteers may sign up as program leaders.**

## Read 718

- 10. Tutor 3rd-8th graders**, from July 8 – August 15 in a literacy intervention program for. Volunteers are trained in all materials and work with the same student for the full 6 weeks. **In-person and remote options available. Training and Orientation required.**

## Reading Partners

- 11. Tutor K – 4th graders**, from July 8 – August 15 in a literacy intervention program for. Volunteers are trained in all materials and work with the same student for the full 6 weeks. **In-person and remote options available. Training and Orientation required.**

## Brooklyn Book Bodega

12. **Pack and Sort books.** Help to increase the number of 100+ book homes in Brooklyn.

## Queens Botanical Garden

13. **Garden Guides.** Bring inspiration, positivity, and education to our visitors! Help visitors of all ages understand and appreciate plant collections and ecosystems in the Garden. Assist visitors while they explore and participate in our seasonal programs. Garden guide roles vary from discovery, program, or visitor services.
14. **Horticulture Volunteer** | [Thursdays April through November, 9:30am to 12pm.](#) Help keep Queens Botanical Garden clean, green, and growing! Join QBG's horticulture staff for an engaging, educational event where you will learn gardening basics and work hands-on with plants.
15. **Compost Bagging** | [Every 2nd Wednesday of the month, 9am to 12:30pm.](#) Join the QBG Compost Staff prep for our compost giveaway events. Volunteers will support staff sift and bag finished compost, have great conversations, and learn about the QBG composting process.
16. **Farm Volunteer** | [Every Tuesday and Wednesday April through September 9:30am to 12pm.](#) Help prepare the QBG Farm to grow produce that we distribute to food pantries in supporting our communities with food relief.

## 9/11 Memorial

### **17. Summer Visitor Services Volunteers**

Assist by proactively greeting visitors and answering questions. *We recommend summer volunteers work two four-hour shifts per week for 2-3 months.*

### **18. Summer Retail Greeter Volunteers**

Assist staff in the Museum Store and at the Retail carts on the by greeting visitors, providing helpful information about products, and sharing the stories behind them as they connect to Museum themes like recovery efforts and remembrance. *We recommend summer volunteers work two four-hour shifts per week for 2-3 months.*

## Mount Sinai Brooklyn

19. Our volunteers help in a variety of ways. All are very important to keep our hospital running smoothly and provide support to our patients. You can help in a number of clinical or special care units, including:
  - a. Emergency Department
  - b. Inpatient nursing units
  - c. Nursing units

- d. Office support
- e. Surgical inpatient unit

**All volunteers including adults and high school students are required to complete the Medical Clearance Forms.**

### **Maimonides Medical Center**

20. Various departments. **All volunteers including adults and high school students are required to complete the Medical Clearance Forms.** These forms will be provided after receipt of your volunteer application.

### **Federal Volunteer Opportunities in NYC**

#### **21. Gateway National Recreation Area - Lead Beach-Cleanup Ambassador**

You will play a critical role in promoting responsible beach use, environmental stewardship, and the protection of our coastal ecosystems. Also, creating a welcoming and safe environment for beachgoers while fostering a sense of responsibility for the park's ecosystems. Your leadership will help educate visitors about the importance of clean beaches and inspire them to become active stewards of the environment. We are looking for a volunteer who can serve **at least 8 hours per month. A reference check is required. A uniform will be required and will be provided by the site.**

#### **22. Gateway National Recreation Area - Lead Beach-Cleanup Ambassador**

Lead Tour Ambassador for Gateway National Recreation Area, you will be responsible for leading and coordinating interpretive tours, engaging visitors, and fostering a deep appreciation for the park's natural and cultural resources. You will work closely with a team of interpreters, rangers, and volunteers to provide informative and memorable experiences for park visitors. We are looking for a volunteer who can serve **at least 8 hours per month. A reference check is required. A uniform will be required and will be provided by the site.**

#### **23. General Grant National Memorial Docent**

Assist in providing historical information, conveying the meaning of the Grant mausoleum, greeting visitors, answering questions and giving directions, and bookstore sales at The Tomb. Training materials and time on or off-site will be provided to the volunteer to promote site knowledge before public interactions. We are looking for a volunteer who can serve **at least one day per week for 4-6 hours at a time. A uniform will be required and will be provided by the site.**

#### **24. Statue of Liberty National Monument - Interpretation and Visitor Services Volunteer**

Interpretation and Visitor Services volunteers assist with providing information, orientation, and resource interpretation to our visitors. We are looking for a volunteer who can serve **at least one day per week for 4-6 hours at a time. All volunteers must apply for a US Park Police ID which will be shown at entry**

***checkpoints and when boarding ferries. A background check is required. A uniform will be required and will be provided by the site.***

Additional Federal Volunteer Opportunities include:

- African Burial Ground Docent (Tour Guide)
- Save Ellis Island
- Ellis Island Discography Assistant
- Trails & Rails Interpretive Guide of New York Harbor on Amtrak
- Trails & Rails Amtrak Interpretive Guide
- Federal Hall National Memorial Interpretive Volunteer
- And more.