



Florida  
Oceanographic  
Society

# ADULT VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

890 NE Ocean Boulevard \* Stuart \* Florida \* 34996  
[www.floridaoceanographic.org](http://www.floridaoceanographic.org) \* (772) 225-0505

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a year-round or seasonal resident of Florida?  year-round  seasonal\*

\*If seasonal, what months are you available? \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

## EDUCATION, WORK/VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE, SKILLS AND INTEREST

Highest level of education:  High School  AA/AS  BA/BS  MA  Other

Years of College: \_\_\_\_\_ Major(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently employed? \_\_\_\_\_ Current/Former Occupation(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have volunteer experience? \_\_\_\_\_ Where did you volunteer, for how long, and what were your responsibilities? \_\_\_\_\_

What interests you in volunteering with Florida Oceanographic?: \_\_\_\_\_

Hobbies, skills, interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any additional skills, languages, etc. that you feel would benefit the Center: \_\_\_\_\_

## PLEASE CHECK THE TIME/TIMES YOU ARE AVAILABLE FOR EACH DAY

Monday	<input type="checkbox"/> am <input type="checkbox"/> pm	Tuesday	<input type="checkbox"/> am <input type="checkbox"/> pm	Wednesday	<input type="checkbox"/> am <input type="checkbox"/> pm	Thursday	<input type="checkbox"/> am <input type="checkbox"/> pm
Friday	<input type="checkbox"/> am <input type="checkbox"/> pm	Saturday	<input type="checkbox"/> am <input type="checkbox"/> pm	Sunday	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:30-4:00	As Needed	<input type="checkbox"/> am <input type="checkbox"/> pm

**PREFERENCES IN VOLUNTEERING**

Prefer to spend most of my time:  walking  standing  sitting  no preference

Prefer to work:  indoors  outdoors  no preference

Prefer to work with:  children/youth  adults  no preference

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Have you ever been convicted of, had adjudication withheld, or pled guilty or nolo contendere (no contest) to a criminal offense (misdemeanor or felony)?  yes  no

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

In the future, background checks may become mandatory. Are you willing to comply with a request for a criminal background check?  yes  no

Do you have any physical and/or emotional conditions which may limit your ability to serve as a volunteer?  yes  no If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**EMERGENCY CONTACT**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**VOLUNTEER REFERRAL METHOD**

How did you first hear about the volunteer program at Florida Oceanographic?

- Current/Former volunteer (please print name) \_\_\_\_\_
- Media (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

*I certify that the information contained in this application is complete and to the best of my knowledge. By signing below I understand that I am participating in a program which includes certain risks in outdoor activities. I voluntarily participate in this program and hold harmless the Florida Oceanographic Society from all responsibilities of personal injury. I hereby waive any and all claims against the Florida Oceanographic Society, its directors and employees for any damage or injuries which I may incur during my participation in this program.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**To learn more about our Center and the available volunteer opportunities, please plan to attend an information session. Call Megan Roberts at 225-0505 x106 for upcoming dates.**

=====FOR OFFICE USE ONLY=====

Application received: ___/___/___	Additional Volunteer Info:
Information Session: ___/___/___	
Orientation: ___/___/___	
Training: ___/___/___ w/ _____	
Placement as: _____	
Entered: ___/___/___	
Welcome Card: ___/___/___	

## **Volunteer Opportunities & Brief Description:**

For more information about any of the opportunities listed please call Megan Roberts, Coordinator of Volunteer Services at 225-0505 x106.

### **EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

**Exhibit Guide:** Interpret exhibits and relay information to the public about our regional aquariums and touch tank inhabitants. Stress the importance of maintaining their fragile habitat and conservation issues that surround various species. Exhibit Guides have an opportunity to learn one or more of the 3 daily educational programs. Choose from the Stingray Program, Game Fish Lagoon Program or the Nature Trail. You will learn about Florida's diverse ecosystems and the animals that inhabit this region. Exhibit Guides are outgoing and must enjoy working with children and adults. Shifts are from 9:45-1:15 or 1:00-5:00 Mon-Sat and 11:30-4 on Sundays. A minimum of a 6 month commitment is necessary for this position along with the ability to work both indoors and outdoors. (Youth and Adult)

**School Group Guides:** Volunteers working with school groups welcome groups and must have the ability to lead them through any or all of our daily programs at the Coastal Center. You will learn about Florida's diverse ecosystems and the animals that inhabit this region. This is a challenging opportunity for a dynamic individual. Prior teaching experience preferred. (Youth and Adult)

**Snorkeling/Seining Guides:** Join our staff in working with school groups and the public while snorkeling at Bathtub Beach or wading with a seine net in the Indian River Lagoon. Volunteers will learn about the various aquatic habitats and the animals that inhabit these diverse ecosystems. Volunteers must be proficient swimmers comfortable wading and swimming in potentially turbulent water. If interested in snorkeling, you must be able to provide your own mask, snorkel, and fins. (Youth and Adult)

**Other Educational Programming:** Other opportunities exist for volunteer involvement with special programs like Home School Days, Sea Squirts, Summer Camp and school programs. Volunteers interested in leading these programs will need to speak directly to our Education Staff about available opportunities. (Youth and Adult)

**Native Plant Butterfly Garden Guide** - Highlight the native plants in our butterfly garden and discuss the various butterflies that frequent the garden. You will learn about Florida's native plants, how invasive exotic plants threaten our natural habitats and learn to identify

and distinguish butterflies and moths. (Youth and Adult)

## **VISITOR CENTER**

**Admission & Gift Shop Attendants** - Volunteers are cross trained for both areas and welcome visitors and groups, accept payment, and provide an overview of our exhibits. When in the gift shop, volunteers help customers with purchases and maintain and restock displays. Training is provided but computer experience is required. (Adult only)

**Greeters:** Assist at the admissions desk during busy times and welcome visitors into the Coastal Center. Greeters can also provide information about the exhibits and programs and help to maintain the Coastal Center during peak season. (Adult only)

## **RESEARCH DEPARTMENT**

**Water Quality Testers:** Perform weekly water testing along key points of the St. Lucie River, the Indian River Lagoon and around the inlet. Volunteers test for dissolved oxygen, visibility, salinity, temperature and pH. (Youth and Adult)

**Oyster Gardeners:** If you live on the St. Lucie River, you can help FOS raise oysters at your dock. Gardeners keep an eye on their oysters and perform weekly water quality tests. (Youth and Adult)

**Other Research Opportunities:** In addition to the above opportunities, the research department needs volunteers who are able to work outdoors on various projects from pressure washing and repairing oyster cages to field work. (Youth and Adult)

## **OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT**

**Craftsman / Tradesman:** Share your unique talents to help maintain and improve our exhibits and facility. If you have a background in plumbing, carpentry, electrical or engineering we can benefit from your help. (Adult only)

**Exotic Plant Removal / Trail Maintenance:** Volunteers help keep our native vegetation healthy by removing unwanted exotic invasive plants and trees. Regular maintenance of the trees and shrubbery on the trail is needed on an ongoing basis. (Regular opportunity for Adults, erratic opportunity for youths)

## **OTHER AREAS OF INVOLVEMENT**

**Receptionist** - Answer incoming phone calls and direct them to the appropriate staff. Help with filing, data entry, mailings and other office projects as needed. Weekly 4 hour commitment from either 9-1 or 1-5. Prior reception or office experience preferred.

**Office Assistant / Mailings:** An extra pair of hands is always needed to help with mailings and various projects or even to answer the phone at the reception desk.

**Special Events:** This is a great way to help if you have a limited amount of time. Functions are held throughout the year which requires additional volunteer support. Fun is had by all.

**Community Events:** Volunteers promote Florida Oceanographic at various events held throughout the county. Ex// fishing tournaments, beach clean-up events, Pineapple Festival, Children’s Museum Activities and other events held throughout the year. Volunteers are our primary representatives at these functions and are key to community exposure.



Supplemental Registration Form for  
**MARTIN VOLUNTEERS AND THE RETIRED AND  
 SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM (RSVP)**

Martin Volunteers is a program of United Way of Martin County

Martin Volunteers also provides a central location for tracking volunteer hours in the county. Your volunteer hours are important so we can provide more accurate reports on the level of volunteerism in Martin County.

Florida Oceanographic Society works in cooperation with **Martin Volunteers** in tracking volunteer hours. Please fill out the registration information below to make your time count in Martin County.

Name *(Please print clearly!)*: \_\_\_\_\_ **TODAY’S DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Neighborhood/Subdivision: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Volunteer**  
*Martin Volunteers staff*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of*

**Martin Volunteers** also requires the following information to support grants and government funding:

Ethnicity:       American Indian or Alaskan Native       Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander  
                   Black or African American (Hispanic)       Black or African American (Non-Hispanic)  
                   Asian                       White (Hispanic)       White (Non-Hispanic)       Other

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: M \_\_\_ F \_\_\_

**Volunteers 55 & older:** Complete this information for free RSVP Supplemental Auto Accident Insurance:

Beneficiary Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Beneficiary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteer's Driver's license # \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

• I understand if I use my personal automobile to drive directly to and from and while participating in volunteer related activities, I will keep in effect automobile liability insurance equal to or greater than the minimum required by the state. (Please Initial here) \_\_\_\_\_

To include your hours for all other agencies with whom you volunteer, please list those agencies below: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to receive information from Martin Volunteers and be invited to the RSVP 55 and older annual recognition luncheon:  Yes  No

*United Way's Mission Statement: Engaging people of all ages and backgrounds in volunteer service that enriches the individual and strengthens the community.*

**Registration information for Martin Volunteers**

Martin Volunteers, a program of United Way, receives hours from local agencies and reports volunteer hours to the federal government. To validate Florida Oceanographic volunteer hours reported to Martin Volunteers, the government mandates that volunteers also be registered with Martin Volunteers. Are you interested in registering with Martin Volunteers?  yes  no