



VOLUNTOURISM



Part of what makes the Outer Banks special is the large number of non-profits (over 100!) and the fine work these organizations do to protect and preserve our culture, history, natural spaces and general well-being. It's a testament to the generosity of the locals and an expression of how much we all care for this special place.

In 2022, the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau launched its Voluntourism initiative to raise awareness for local organizations, the important work they are doing within our community and how visitors can become involved. In close collaboration with the Outer Banks Community Foundation, a non-profit section on the Bureau's website – outerbanks.org/voluntourism – was launched, providing visitors with exposure to Outer Banks non-profit profiles, upcoming event listings, as well as the opportunity to volunteer for an organization or an event. By getting involved with local non-profits, the visitor comes away with a deeper appreciation for the community and a greater sense of responsibility.

"We are continually exploring ways to make visitors more aware of, and connected to, the causes of the Outer Banks. By doing so, we can encourage thoughtful visitation while also providing non-profit organizations with more resources to make an even greater impact."
– Lee Nettles, Executive Director, Outer Banks Visitors Bureau

"It's an honorable thing to leave a place just as you found it. But taking that a step further and sharing a bit of your time and talent to leave that special place in even better shape demonstrates a true appreciation for a community and leaves you connected in a way you never could have imagined otherwise."
– Elisabeth Silverthorne, Executive Director, Beach Food Pantry

North Carolina Beach Buggy Association

Love the Beach Like a Local: Join the NC Beach Buggy Association for a beach clean-up!



The North Carolina Beach Buggy Association is dedicated to preserving the natural beauty of our coastal treasures. This voluntourism project focuses on organizing beach cleanups that not only help maintain the pristine environment of North Carolina's stunning beaches but also provide a unique opportunity for volunteers to make a positive impact while enjoying the scenic beauty of the coastline. Participants in our beach cleanup initiatives can expect to work alongside like-minded individuals who share a passion for environmental stewardship. Together, we collect and responsibly dispose of litter and debris, ensuring that our beaches remain safe and inviting for both residents and visitors. By joining hands with the North Carolina Beach Buggy Association, you not only contribute to the preservation of these breathtaking coastal ecosystems

but also create lasting memories of camaraderie and conservation in action.

Timing: 2 – 3 hours, flexible on locations, good for student and senior groups

Tom Brueckner
NCBBA Director, Life Member #6156
973-714-9940 mobile
tom.brueckner@ncbba.org
<https://www.ncbba.org>

Outer Banks Surfrider Foundation | Kitty Hawk Kites

Be a Beach Hero:



Kitty Hawk Kites is partnering with Surfrider Foundation Outer Banks Chapter to host a series of beach cleanups this season.

Volunteers will receive gloves and cleanup bags, and will be free to clean up a stretch of beach of their own choosing. All participants will be encouraged to use the Marine Debris Tracker app to log the trash they have picked up.

<https://www.kittyhawk.com/event/surfrider-beach-cleanup-kitty-hawk/>

Town of Duck

Be a Beach Hero! Help Grow Green Guardians:



Join in on a fulfilling adventure that ensures the care of our shoreline for future generations! Following the success of our Beach Nourishment project, we're thrilled to invite you to join us as a Beach Planting Volunteer and help build new dunes along our beautiful coastline. As a Dune Defender, you'll get to plant native grasses and shrubs that strengthen the shoreline against erosion and storm surges. Witness the awe-inspiring power of nature as your efforts breathe life back into the beach habitat, all while forging lasting friendships with fellow volunteers. Join us in safeguarding the beauty of our coastline for generations to come! Drop us an email (scross@townofduck.com) or give us a call (252.255.1234) to find out when we have planting days scheduled.

Other Town volunteer opportunities include:

Getting involved in a Town of Duck event is a breeze—no prior experience required. All you need is an open mind and willing hands to make a real difference. Town events are only possible with the help of our active and engaged community. There are no residency or property ownership requirements to volunteer in any of these capacities. However, there may be training requirements associated with these positions.

Current event volunteer opportunities include:

- Summer Event Volunteer
- 4th of July Parade & Celebration Volunteer
- Duck Jazz Festival Volunteer
- Yuletide Celebration Volunteer – To assist with the Town's Tree Lighting and Santa's Arrival.
- Office Volunteer – To assist with general office needs and special projects.

Contact: Betsy Trimble
252.255.1234
P.O. Box 8369, Duck, NC 27949
info@townofduck.com
<https://www.townofduck.com/volunteer-opportunities/>

Beach Food Pantry

Fuel Hope, Not Hunger:



Volunteering at the Beach Food Pantry is easy and rewarding. There are numerous volunteer opportunities available for adults, teens, and groups throughout the year. We would love to have you join our crew - for a day or many!

Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities

- Morning Movers: Rise and shine with us, preparing healthy food baskets for families in need.
- Volunteer activities include pantry organization, stocking shelves, and other upkeep tasks.

Planning a service project for your school group, youth group, club, or sports team? We're here to help! Let's work together to feed the community.

Contact Us!

4007 North Croatan Highway

Kitty Hawk, NC 27949

252-261-2756

volunteers@dbeachfoodpantry.org

<https://beachfoodpantry.org/volunteer>

Food for thought

Fuel Young Minds & Bodies: Be a Food Hero at Food for thought.



Hunger shouldn't hinder learning. Join our vibrant volunteer team and pack nutritious food bags for Dare County students, ensuring they thrive in and out of the classroom.

- Assemble healthy food bags each week at our distribution center.
- Organize the next week's food bounty, ensuring smooth delivery to schools.
- Welcome deliveries from the Food Bank of the Albemarle and Food Lion, keeping the pantry stocked and ready to serve.

Contact Us!

P.O. Box 1167

Kitty Hawk, NC 27949

fftdare@gmail.com

<https://www.foodforthoughtobx.org/you-can-help/>

Chicamacomico Lifesaving Station

Be a History Hero: Volunteer at Chicamacomico!



Experience the thrill of history! At Chicamacomico Lifesaving Station, volunteers like you breathe life into the past, sharing tales of shipwrecks, rescues, and bravery on the Outer Banks' rugged shores. Whether you're a history buff, a friendly face, or a hands-on helper, we have a place for you!

- Rehabilitation projects, there's a way for everyone to contribute their unique skills.
- Help preserve precious artifacts and documents as an archivist, ensuring these stories resonate for generations to come.
- Be the first friendly face visitors encounter as a greeter, setting the stage for an unforgettable journey.

Thank you, volunteers, for sharing your talents for the betterment of Chicamacomico. Your gift of time is valuable to us.

Contact Us!
23645 N.C. Hwy 12
252-987-1552
contact@chicamacomico.org
<https://chicamacomico.org/volunteer/>

Frisco Native American Museum

Looking for a rewarding way to share your free time?



The museum needs your skills and enthusiasm to uncover hidden treasures, keep our exhibits thriving, and make visitors' experiences unforgettable.

Find Your Volunteer Journey:

- Help sort and label hundreds of fascinating stone artifacts, whispering stories of ancient lives.
- Nurture Nature's Wonders while tending to our beloved plants, ensuring they continue to brighten the museum environment.
- Join our creative team and help us build, repair, or maintain exhibits that ignite imagination.

Every role matters: From delicate artifact handling to keeping the gift shop humming, your contribution is invaluable.

Contact Us!
P.O. Box 399, Frisco, NC 27936
252-995-4440
bornfriend1@gmail.com
<https://nativeamericanmuseum.org/schoolsresearch/>

Outer Banks SPCA

Unleash Your Kindness: Volunteer at the Outer Banks SPCA.



Show your furry friends with love and make a difference. Join the Outer Banks SPCA Volunteer family and find your paw-fect fit!

Volunteers play a key role in our organization. They work closely with staff in a positive, rewarding, and fun environment. We strive to match their skills and interests with their love of animals to provide quality care for our animals and humane education to our community.

- From enthusiastic friends to dedicated student groups, we offer a variety of volunteering opportunities to suit your interests, enrichment activities to pet food drives and community outreach events.” This offers a glimpse into the different ways volunteers can contribute.
- Groups of all sizes and ages are welcome to lend a helping hand at our shelter. We value every minute you spend making a difference for our animals.
- Become a Dog Walker: Be a furry friend’s sunshine, giving them joy and exercise.
- Clean Team: Be a hero behind the scenes, keeping our shelters sparkling for happy paws.

Contact Us!
378 Airport Road
Manteo, NC 27954
252-475-5620
volunteer@obxspca.org
<https://www.obxspca.org/get-involved/>

Elizabethan Gardens

Find Your Green Thumb Paradise: Volunteer at The Elizabethan Gardens.



We love volunteers of all abilities and interests!

- Gardening Gurus: Learn from our experts, nurture our blooms, and brush up your skills alongside our horticulture team.
- Plant Whisperers: Share your green magic! Help us keep our nursery thriving and guide budding gardeners on their plant journeys.

Create lasting memories and nurture a lifelong love for nature. Groups are welcomed!

Perhaps you will find something that interests you on our Volunteer Events Page, or complete the form below and we can contact you about what suits your interests.

Contact Us!

1411 National Park Drive

Manteo, NC 27954

252-473-3234

info@elizabethangardens.org

<https://www.elizabethangardens.org/volunteers-get-involved/>

Outer Banks Conservationists

Unleash your inner explorer! Join the vibrant crew of Outer Banks Conservationists and forge your own adventure, protecting the beauty and rich history of this iconic coastline.



- Lend a hand on historic Island Farm, connecting the past to the present through sustainable agriculture and hands-on learning.
- Become an Archive Ace, unearthing hidden treasures and preserving stories of shipwrecks and daring rescues.
- Brush up history with a paintbrush! Help maintain the grandeur of our lighthouses, guiding future generations towards safe shores.

And Much More! From event support to marketing marvels, we have a perfect fit for every passion and skill.

Contact Us!

305 Queen Elizabeth Ave

P.O. Box 721

Manteo, NC 27954

252-473-6500

info@obcinc.org

<https://obcinc.org/give/>

North Carolina Coastal Federation

Be a Coast Defender: Protect Paradise with the North Carolina Coastal Federation!



Join thousands of heroes like you and defend North Carolina's breathtaking coast. From restoring vital habitats to advocating for clean water, your volunteer power makes a difference.

- Plant native trees, rebuild oyster reefs, and nurture the ecosystem that sustains our coast.
- Discover the joy of making a real difference with like-minded volunteers and gain valuable skills while protecting the Outer Banks coastline.

Host your own Cleanup!

We all need to do our part to have a coast free of marine debris and litter. Whether part of a larger Federation-hosted volunteer clean-up or by forming a group on your own, you can help protect and restore our beautiful coastline. Be sure to email and tag us in any photos you share on social media.

Contact Us!

637 Harbor Road

P.O. Box 276

Wanchese, NC 27981

252-473-1607

sarajh@nccoast.org

<https://www.nccoast.org/get-involved/volunteer/>