Volunteer Training Programs

Beach Naturalists
Class offered in Spring
60 hours of training
(48 hours in class and 12 in the field)
Cost: approximately $60
(scholarships available)
Training topics
• Intertidal invertebrates
• Seaweeds
• Animals
• Beach etiquette
• Nearshore habitats and conservation
• Salmon and forage fish
• Climate change

Native Plant Advisors
Class offered late Summer
60 hours of training
(48 hours in class and 12 in the field)
Cost: approximately $60
(scholarships available)
Training topics
• Shoreline plants
• Plant propagation
• Landscaping with native plants
• Native plants from A to Z
• Taxonomy
• LID (Low Impact Development)
• Intro to Rain Gardens
• Ethnobotany

Stream Stewards
Class offered January - April
33 hours of training
(additional field work May-August)
Cost: approximately $40
(scholarships available)
Training topics
• Trees and their environment
• Forest practices/ecology
• Surveying and assessing
• Riparian management plans
• Restoration and enhancement
• Salmon ecology
• Benthic ecology

Volunteer Opportunities

• Bird Surveys: Participate in the regional beached bird surveys (requires one additional day of training)
• Rain Garden Mentors: Assist with education and installation (requires additional training)
• Salmon Docent: Educate the public streamside during the salmon run season
• Dock Walker: Boater outreach
• Beach Education: Educate citizens visiting local beaches and conduct beach walks
• Streamside Planting: Assist with restoration and enhancement, using native plants
• General Outreach: Teach youth and adults about your area of interest
• Technical Committees: Participate in local environmental advisory groups such as stormwater and shorelines
• Stream Sampling: Assist local public works staff collecting stream bug samples (requires one additional day of training)
• Shoreline Assessment: Assist local health district staff with water quality samples (requires additional 1/2 day of training)

Each of the volunteer programs requires a minimum of 25 volunteer hours and 5-10 hours of continuing education per year.