

Salmon Docent Position Description

Contact: Mary Birchem, Outreach & Education Coordinator, mary@capitollandtrust.org 360-943-3012 ext. 9

Position Overview: Volunteer Salmon Docents provide interpretation to the public about Bayshore Preserve during the fall when chum salmon return to Johns Creek.

Responsible To: Outreach & Education Coordinator

Key Responsibilities:

- Help with set up/tear down.
- Engage people of all ages in the wonders of the chum salmon run by fostering curiosity, sharing your knowledge, and answering visitor questions.
- Help operate underwater cameras.
- Fill out program reporting forms.

Initial Impact: Salmon Docents have an important role in fostering connections between people and nature. By volunteering for our outreach programs, you expand CLT and Puget Sound Estuarium's ability to engage more deeply with the surrounding community.

Sustained Outcomes:

- Gaining community support for conservation.
- Building relationships with community members.
- Creating a personal connection to the natural world.

Training Provided: A two-hour volunteer training is provided during the evening in mid-October each year. This training covers background information on Bayshore Preserve, salmon biology, interpretation tips and tricks, how to use the technology, and program logistics. An optional on-site Bayshore Preserve orientation is provided on a weekend morning following the evening training.

Support: Salmon Docents receive support from CLT's Outreach & Education Coordinator and Puget Sound Estuarium staff. CLT staff and/or Estuarium staff will be on site every day. Open communication, resource, and knowledge sharing among volunteers and organizational staff is encouraged.

Commitment: Volunteers attend a two-hour training and sign up for at least docent shift. Day-of commitment is between 2-4 hours, not including drive time. Volunteers are responsible for providing their own transportation to and from Bayshore Preserve and the training location. There are five salmon docent days.

Skills and Qualifications:

- Willingness to learn and share knowledge about Pacific Northwest salmon and site history.
- Willingness to participate in different types of weather.
- Maintain a fun attitude when working with the public.
- Flexibility.
- Ability to walk between 600 feet and a half mile.

Benefits:

- Opportunities to meet and get to know others who are interested in the natural world.
- Spend time outside.
- Gain knowledge and practice with salmon biology, conservation, and interpretation.
- Professional references.