

Volunteering

There are many opportunities to volunteer at Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. Here's a list of our *current opportunities*:

Tour guide/Docent May to October

Goal: Engage museum visitors and make museum exhibits interesting and relevant to the visitor's own experience. Learn more about local history as you interact with visitors.

- Jump in and help bring Lake Champlain boats, history, and culture alive!
- Specifically we are looking for guides on board the replica gunboat Philadelphia II.
- Volunteers should be friendly and helpful and willing to learn Training in Revolutionary War history on Lake Champlain is provided.
- Help visitors understand the history and people of the region at our campus in Vergennes.

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Social Media Communicator

Goal: Work with LCMM's communications staff, curators and educators to provide current content for our social media presence.

- Interview staff, volunteers, special events participants to provide content for advance, near real time, and post event, blogging and social media interaction.
- Review long term museum activities for content driven marketing opportunities.
- Work with staff to create website content.
- Monitor and report on LCMM's online presence and draft responses, updates, and corrections as needed

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Collection Management Volunteer

Goal: Work with our nautical archaeologists, curator and educators to develop reference and access systems for historical and archaeological collections.

- Review collection content and create Scope and Content listing
- Develop finding aids
- Digitize collection materials
- Build search lexicon
- Respond to reference requests from staff and researchers

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Archival/Artifact Collections Assistant

The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum in Vergennes is a repository for historical articles, documents, prints, paintings, artifacts, and more. Proper storage, documentation and organization is crucial to the safety of these historic pieces. Volunteers will assist with organizing and systematizing collections records & archives, moving and inventorying collections to new storage space, upgrading and updating archival system, and recording and photographing artifacts and records. 4 hours/week, weekday or weekends from May through October. Weekdays through the winter.

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Conservation Lab Interpreter/Assistant

The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum in Vergennes has a unique interpretive and educational program that allows public access to recently recovered artifacts. Artifacts require certain physical and chemical processes to prevent their deterioration. This is carried out in public in our laboratory and a volunteer is needed to assist the full-time conservator. Volunteer must be personable and enjoy talking with people, be good at working with old and delicate objects. Experience in conservation a plus but will train. One or two volunteers, 4 hours per week. Weekdays from May through October.

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Ecology Program Volunteer

Work with the Ecology Program Director on preparation and execution of on-water ecology programming for school groups. Duties may include lifting and carrying canoes and other gear, assisting with supervision of Grade K-8 students on land and in canoes or longboats, cleaning and storing equipment, writing brief trip summaries and assisting with program evaluations. Programs are 3-5 hours in length. Some training is required. Hours are typically 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. M-F, 1-3 programs weekly. Prefer a commitment to 3 or more program days. Paid position is being explored for 2016 education season.

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Boat Shop Volunteer

Work with boat shop staff and other volunteers to build or repair museum boats.

- Maintain existing boats in the museum fleet.
- Repair donated vessels for resale. Increase the value of donated vessels with minor repairs.
- Assist in creating ads for resale vessels for museum website, brokers, and Craigslist.
- Assist youth programs in building a new wooden vessel. The program runs five afternoons per week from January to May.
- Work with the museum curator to document boats in the museum collection.

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Gardening Volunteer

Work independently to maintain and improve several perennial gardens around the museum grounds. Weeding, transplanting, pruning, and edge trimming activities are needed on a weekly basis.

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Construction & Maintenance Volunteers

The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum in Vergennes has expanded to incorporate over 12 buildings, dozens of vessels both in and out of the water, and complex exhibits-all set on 2 1/2 acres of grounds. Volunteers are needed to assist in the construction and maintenance of the buildings, exhibits and grounds. No experience is necessary for some projects, however, carpentry, painting and landscaping experience is a plus. Flexible schedule weekdays from May through October.

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