



## SEA SHEPHERD USA VOLUNTEER CREW APPLICATION

**This application is to apply for a position on any of the ships *S/V Martin Sheen*,  
*M/Y Farley Mowat* and *M/Y Jules Verne*.**

Thank you for inquiring about crewing with Sea Shepherd Conservation Society! We have had people of all ages, from diverse “walks of life,” from around the world apply to spend several months and sometimes years volunteering aboard one of our vessels.

This is your chance to participate in direct action campaigns with the most successful marine wildlife protection organization in the world!

Applying to be a part of the crew requires a one-time, non-refundable **application fee of USD \$100**. Payments may be made through our website as a donation ([www.seashepherd.org/support-us](http://www.seashepherd.org/support-us)) and the acknowledgement email forwarded to [crew@seashepherd.org](mailto:crew@seashepherd.org) as proof. Alternatively, you may send a check or money order to the Sea Shepherd office address given below.

Crew application fee: USD \$100.00

Once you have completed this Crew Application and Voluntary Waiver Form (below), please send by **postal service** your application papers to the physical mailing address below, along with a photocopy of your passport showing clearly your picture passport ID Number and an original passport size photo of yourself.

Please send an email to (or add the seashepherd.org domain to your email ‘whitelist’) [crew@seashepherd.org](mailto:crew@seashepherd.org) – otherwise a large portion of our emails end up in spam folders. Simply state that you’ve submitted your application, but don’t expect a response until your actual application has been received by our office.

Please read through this application thoroughly. If you have further questions, please first refer to our **Frequently asked Questions** on our Crewing at Sea page. If you still have questions, you can contact our crew coordinator by e-mail

**E-mail: [crew@seashepherd.org](mailto:crew@seashepherd.org)**

Alternatively, you may contact the office by phone: Tel: +1-360-370-5650

**Mail your application to:**

**SEA SHEPHERD CONSERVATION SOCIETY  
PO Box 8628  
Alexandria, VA 22306**

## The Application Process

You will receive a confirmation by e-mail when your application is received so be sure to include your email address on your application. Please allow two to three weeks for us to process your application.

## Volunteer Crewmember Application Qualifications

To be eligible, you must meet the following requirements:

- No felony convictions in the past 10 years.
- You must be a minimum of 18 years old to serve on Sea Shepherd vessels.
- You must know how to swim.
- You must comply with the Sea Shepherd “zero tolerance” drug policy and smoking rules.
- You are financially responsible for travel to and from the ship and all personal items.
- You may be required to get a multiple entry US visa.
- You must agree to be filmed/photographed while on campaign.

## Crew Selection Process

Below is an outline on how we “crew-up” our vessels whenever we are preparing for a campaign or whenever a crewmember position opens up:

- **Time Available:** We first look at the “Dates Available” area on all applications, as we are usually filling positions for a specific period of time.

The minimum commitment is a very minimum of two months with preference given to those who can commit to three months. For new crew, we suggest a maximum of 4 months on board. We can of course evaluate how things are going at any point along the way and make changes.

- **Positions Available:**

There are six primary areas onboard our ships:

- 1.) Bridge
- 2.) Deck
- 3.) Engine Room
- 4.) Galley
- 5.) Communications
- 6.) Media

Previous experience working on board a ship is an asset but not required. First-time deckhands, engineers, quartermasters and galley workers are trained by veteran crewmembers. For obvious reasons, we must first crew our ocean-going vessels with the most skilled individuals such as captains, engineers, bosuns, medics and cooks. This said, all positions are just as important to the running of the ship.

- **Desirable Crewmember Attributes:** The most sought-after crewmember would have a positive attitude, a good work ethic, and be flexible to changes and new situations.

If you would like to improve and add to your skills and knowledge base to be a better crewmember candidate, the following are some suggestions:

### 1. First aid and CPR

- Online courses
  - <http://www.ptitraining.net/index.php> (\$39.95)
- Local classes
  - Red Cross or equivalent organization (\$60)
- Literature
  - "First Aid, CPR, and AED Essentials"(4<sup>th</sup> edition)(paperback) by Alton L.Thygerson (\$30)

### 2. Knot tying

- "Handbook of Knots" (paperback) by Des Pawson/Dorling Kindersley Publishers Ltd (\$15)

### 3. Seamanship

- Literature
  - Chapman Piloting and Seamanship 65<sup>th</sup> Edition by Elbert S. Maloney (\$60)
- Able Seamen Certification Classes
  - USCG Approved Able seaman classes or international equivalent are available from \$500 to \$700. Upon completion of the course you will be knowledgeable in the following areas:
    1. Basic Marine Navigation
    2. Deck Procedures and Safety
    3. Survival at Sea
    4. Knot Tying

- **Get Involved:** You can also "get your foot in the door" by starting to volunteer onshore from wherever you are now! Please look at our **Volunteer** information page on our website:

<http://www.seashepherd.org/get-involved/volunteer-onshore.html>

- **On the ship:** Once you join the ship you will be assigned a bunk on board and fed 3 meals a day plus snacks. Your main expense will be traveling to and from the ship.



Sea Shepherd Conservation Society USA

# Volunteer Crew Application Form

*glue/tape  
photo  
here*

## Personal Details

Given Names			
Last Name			
Preferred Name			
Date of Birth	<i>Day</i>	<i>Month</i>	<i>Year</i>
Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> male	<input type="checkbox"/> female	
Country of Citizenship			
Languages (rate: native, fluent, intermediate, basic)			
Current Occupation		Since	<i>Month</i> <i>Year</i>

## Contact Details

Current Address		
City		
State/Province		
Country		
Zip/Postal Code		
Phone	Home:	Cell:
Email		
SkypeID		
Facebook	facebook.com/	
Other Social Media		

## Availability

Preferred Dates (or write "open")	Start	Day	Month	Year
	End	Day	Month	Year
Length of commitment				

## Background (Please attach an additional page if you need more room.)

Please tell us a little about yourself

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## Work Experience

Work or Occupation	Dates	Duties

## Education

School Attended	Dates	Degree and Field of Study

## Volunteer Experience

Organization	Dates	Duties

**Skills** (Don't worry about blanks – we just want a good understanding of what you're good at.)

**Professional Sailing (Commercial/Merchant/Yachting)**

Qualifications/Certificates	Experience

**Recreational Sailing**

Type of Sailboat/Motor Boat	Experience (nautical miles, days at sea)

**Welding (please add a description for the below skills)**

Description of Skills/Experience	Questions
	Steel: yes no
	Pipes: yes no
	Aluminum: yes no

**Carpentry**

Qualifications/Skills/Experience – Use number and describe

Rate: 1-None; 2-Basic experience; 3-Can do work around the house; 4-Significant experience; 5-Professional, years of exp.

**Plumbing**

Qualifications/Skills/Experience – Use number and describe

Rate: 1-None; 2-Basic experience; 3-Can do work around the house; 4-Significant experience; 5-Professional, years of exp.

**Electrical**

Qualifications/Skills/Experience – Use number and describe

Rate: 1-None; 2-Basic experience; 3-Can do work around the house; 4-Significant experience; 5-Professional, years of exp.

## Bridge Electronics

Questions	
• Do you have any electronics experience (soldering, repairs, circuit design)?	Yes No
• Do you have experience installing radios or antennas?	Yes No
• Do you have marine electronics experience (i.e. NMEA 0183 or 2000)?	Yes No
Qualifications/Skills/Experience	

## Engine Mechanics

Qualifications/Skills/Experience/Types of Engines - Describe
Rate: 1-None; 2-Basic experience; 3-Can do work on car/truck; 4-Significant experience; 5-Professional, years of exp.

## Cooking

Qualifications/Skills/Experience

## Medical

Qualifications/Skills/Experience

## Small Boats (RHIBs, Zodiacs, etc.)

Question	Qualifications/Skills/Experience
Comfortable launching/recovering from a moving vessel? Yes No	

## SCUBA Diving

Qualifications/Skills/Experience

## IT/Computers

Questions	Yes	No
• Do you have computer networking experience?	Yes	No
• Do you have system administration experience with Linux, Unix, BSD or similar OS?	Yes	No
• Do you have software development experience (web, applications, embedded, etc)?	Yes	No

## Graphic Design

Qualifications/Skills/Experience (website or portfolio)

## Crane Operations

Qualifications/Skills/Experience

## Fundraising

Qualifications/Experience/Description

## Other Skills We Should Know About

Description



## Additional

How did you hear about Sea Shepherd?		
Why do you want to join a Sea Shepherd campaign?		
List any medical/health conditions and any prescription drugs you are taking:		
Have you ever been convicted of a crime? Have you ever been involved in any lawsuits?		
If "yes," please explain below. (A conviction does not mean that you cannot volunteer. Many of our veteran crewmembers have been arrested and convicted for civil disobedience.)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

**Crewmember Expectations – PLEASE READ THESE CAREFULLY!**

**Please acknowledge and initial to the right of each statement:**

I am willing to perform chores and to fill a role with good cheer, responsible initiative, and a positive attitude.	
I understand the amount of time required and the dedication necessary to be a crewmember. I am willing to set aside personal agendas in order to focus on my vital role as a member of the Sea Shepherd crew.	
I understand that I am applying to be a volunteer, therefore, I do not expect wages, payments, or any other form of compensation for my services or time spent with Sea Shepherd.	
I agree that I am fully responsible for payment of all medical expenses and other damages arising if I am injured or become ill while volunteering for Sea Shepherd.	
I understand that any photographs or other media taken by me while I am a Sea Shepherd volunteer will belong to Sea Shepherd.	
I understand that as a volunteer, I am representing Sea Shepherd Conservation Society and I will conduct myself in a mature and responsible manner at all times.	
I understand that as a member of the crew, I could be dismissed for excessive drinking, reporting late or missing work shifts, or if I disobey the ship’s captain or officers.	

**\*FOR ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: Attach an extra piece of paper**

I certify that I have given true and accurate information on all pages of this application, and where I have initialed, I am indicating my understanding of the question.

In the event that confirmation is needed in connection with this application, I authorize Sea Shepherd Conservation Society to contact any of my educational, employment, or personal references that I have provided, as well as registration and license boards and others to furnish information concerning my statements made in this application.

I understand that false information may be grounds for rejection of my application and/or grounds for immediate dismissal from Sea Shepherd Conservation Society.

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

***Check list! Please mail this SEA SHEPHERD Volunteer Crew Application to the address below with:***

	<b>Your crew application fee receipt (showing \$100 to SS USA)</b>
	<b>Photocopy of your passport</b>
	<b>Photograph (original, not a copy glued/taped to first page)</b>
	<b>Signed waiver form (last page of this application)</b>

**Failure to provide all of these items may results in your application process being delayed.**

**Thank you!**  
***Sea Shepherd***

**Sea Shepherd Conservation Society - Crewing**

**PO Box 8628**

**Alexandria, VA 22306**

**Tel: +1-212.220.2302**

## VOLUNTEER WAIVER OF LIABILITY

I assume any and all risks associated with volunteering with SEA SHEPHERD CONSERVATION SOCIETY, whether on land, at sea, in port, ashore, or enroute to or from any location or vessel, in any capacity in which I might serve.

I agree that I am volunteering with SEA SHEPHERD entirely upon my own initiative, risk and responsibility. I acknowledge that I am a volunteer, everything I do for SEA SHEPHERD is done as a volunteer, and I expect no wages, payment of any other form of compensation for anything I do for SEA SHEPHERD.

I agree for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, to release, hold harmless, and forever discharge SEA SHEPHERD, its Board members, supporters, vessels, officers and personnel from any and all claims, demands, actions, causes of action, in law, admiralty or equity, on account of my death, or on account of any injury to me or my property, which may occur from any cause whether on land or at sea, in port, ashore, or enroute to or from any location or vessel. I take full responsibility for any negligence by me. I agree that I am fully responsible for payment of all medical expenses and other damages arising if I am injured or become ill while volunteering, whether on or off a SEA SHEPHERD vessel.

I acknowledge and understand completely that activity with SEA SHEPHERD, whether at sea, in port, ashore, or enroute to or from any location or vessel, is inherently dangerous, and cannot be made safe even with the exercise of the greatest degree of care. I further acknowledge that most of the people on the ship will be volunteers who are not professional mariners and who can be expected to make mistakes which may result in injury to me and I will take full responsibility for any injury.

I have read and completely understand the history of the SEA SHEPHERD, including being confronted by armed government forces while the SEA SHEPHERD is in the protection of marine species. I have been fully briefed with written material on how dangerous the SEA SHEPHERD campaigns can be. I have viewed the activities of the SEA SHEPHERD on video and acknowledge that there has been some "glamorization" of SEA SHEPHERD activities, but I took careful note of the actual danger exhibited on the screen. I am ready to put myself in personal danger. I also understand that I am aboard a vessel that possibly carries no insurance policy of any kind.

I understand that once I am onboard the ship I will be briefed on safety and operating procedures (while at sea or in preparation for). Any time I have a question or am uncomfortable, I will address my concerns to an officer of the ship. I agree to follow the orders of the Captain, Officer(s) and/or the Port Manager.

**I have read and understand this release.**

Print \_\_\_\_\_ name:

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

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