

CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING

Corporate volunteers will gain hands-on experiences and knowledge of oyster restoration, build camaraderie with their team, and enjoy a beautiful day on Governors Island.

Billion Oyster Project relies on volunteers to restore oyster reefs! At our headquarters on Governors Island there are many opportunities to help build oyster reef structures, prepare shells for the hatchery, sort and count baby oysters, and more.

CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING RATE: \$3,000

Our team will work with you to design the perfect outing for your group, including free ferry access, a behind-the-scenes tour of our facilities, catered picnic lunch, and hands-on restoration activities. Volunteer events take place on weekdays during the Spring and Summer. Choose from either of the packages below:

- 1 Full-Day Session for up to 10 participants
- 2 Half-Day Sessions for up to 20 participants (morning & afternoon)

Larger groups may be accommodated in accordance with city and state guidelines.



"My team and I love volunteering with BOP – it's both rewarding and educational. Every time we go we learn something new, and it's great to be able to contribute to the restoration of oysters in the New York Harbor to protect marine life, the environment, and the city we love!"

-- Caroline Alix, Experience Design at Salesforce



GIVE BACK SAFELY

Our headquarters on Governors Island provides plenty of open space for social distancing and a comfortable team outing. To ensure a safe environment for volunteers, Billion Oyster Project is following all recommended health and safety protocols, including limiting gatherings to 10 people or less, requiring face coverings, social distancing, and increased handwashing.



WHY SUPPORT BILLION OYSTER PROJECT?

One billion oysters will make a big difference in New York Harbor, but that's just a drop in the bucket of what was once here—and only half of our story. Billion Oyster Project (BOP) was founded on the belief that restoration without education is temporary, and that learning outcomes improve when students have the opportunity to work on real restoration projects. Beyond designing STEM curriculum for NYC schools through the lens of oyster restoration, BOP collects discarded oyster shells for reuse from 75 NYC restaurants, builds reef structures with volunteers, and engages Urban Assembly New York Harbor School students in large-scale projects. To date, BOP has planted 47 million oysters, restoring 12 acres of habitat at 15 reef sites.

Oysters, once plentiful in New York Harbor, serve three main benefits:

- They clear water as they eat. One adult oyster can filter up to 50 gallons of water a day!
- They are ecosystem engineers! Oyster reefs provide 3D habitat for hundreds of species.
- They provide a natural defense against storms-softening the blow of waves and preventing erosion.

To learn more, please reach out to Montana Jernigan at <u>mjernigan@nyharbor.org</u>.



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