

Memorial and Maintenance Volunteer
Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge/Battle of Midway National Memorial
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Duties: Work will include, but is not limited to:

- Conservation and maintenance of historic structures and properties (i.e. bunkers, flagpoles, anchors, monuments, etc.) in accordance with historic preservation standards;
- Application rust treatment and corrosion control
- Installation fencing and bird burrow protection
- Trail maintenance and vegetation clearing;
- Conducting inventories and surveys of Refuge equipment and vehicles along with other tasks depending on current projects and Refuge needs.

Volunteers are expected to work a minimum of 40 hours/week with additional weekend work when necessary.

Requirements: Must be physically fit with proof of no limiting physical conditions; able to swim, confidently ride a bike for miles both day and night; hike up to six miles in the sand or on uneven terrain in both hot sun and cold/cloudy/rainy conditions; lift 50 pounds; willing to apply herbicide while wearing required protective gear.

Other relevant skills will include:

- Painting, including proper preparation of surfaces
- Simple carpentry and ability to fabricate parts when necessary
- Use of small hand tools including sanders, hand drills, chipper/shredder, etc.
- Ability to troubleshoot small engines (e.g. pressure washer, hand tools)
- Ability to improvise when required materials or tools may not be present on the island

Applicants must be willing to perform all duties in sub-tropical wind, sun, rain, cold, and humidity extremes. Weather on Midway Atoll can be severe and can change quickly. The refuge is also one of the largest sea bird colonies in the world, thus applicants should be comfortable working alongside thousands of birds. Hazards may also include spiders, centipedes, flies, severe heat, blowing sand, and collisions with seabirds.

Top consideration will be given to applicants that possess knowledge of and experience in historical artifact/structures/properties preservation in accordance with the federal laws and policy. Volunteers selected must possess a strong work ethic, be positive self-starters, willing to adhere to staff directions and maintenance protocols, and be able to effectively (and “harmoniously”) live and work closely with a small group of diverse people for the duration of the assignment (six months).

Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge is a remote site and accessible only by plane twice a month. Because of the isolated nature of this work, safety is of the utmost importance. Volunteers should be aware that evacuation for emergencies or medical issues can typically take at least 24 hours and be potentially very expensive (supplemental DAN insurance is recommended). Because Midway is a small community where volunteers will be working and living with FWS employees and contractors, we cannot stress enough our zero tolerance policy for harassment or abuse of any kind, including alcohol or drug abuse.

A minimum 4-6 month commitment is required. One Round-trip flight between Midway and Honolulu on a private charter plane and meals and housing at Midway are provided. Volunteers are responsible for their own travel arrangements to Honolulu. A current passport is required for travel to and from Midway.

Volunteer living quarters are comfortably furnished and include individual bedrooms, a common living area, and a full kitchen. Volunteers are responsible for the proper upkeep of their living quarters. Meals are served at the "Clipper House" and include cafeteria-style food with a wide variety of dishes, including vegetarian options and a full salad bar, courtesy of Midway's hydroponic garden. Most special dietary needs are easily addressed (Please inquire with any questions). There is also a small store on Midway that provides some basic food and necessities. Drinking alcohol is permitted on Midway (21 and over only) and can be purchased in the store. Mail including small packages is typically delivered twice per month.

We will send selected volunteers additional information about the Refuge, duties, and suggested items to bring, as well as required forms. These items must be submitted before the volunteer arrives for duty in Honolulu. A current physical, tetanus shot, and TB test are also required.

Volunteer time periods and application deadlines; exact start times may vary depending on plane schedules and selected individuals should coordinate travel plans with Midway staff prior to departing home:

January - June: Applications due October 15

June - November: Application period open February 15 through March 15

If you are interested in more than one time period, a separate application for each time period is required. Because of the large number of applications received, preference will be given to those with knowledge and skills implementing historic preservation techniques and electrical and mechanical troubleshooting, operation and maintenance of power tools.

To Apply: If you are interested in applying, please email a cover letter, brief résumé outlining relevant education and work experience, three work-related references (with phone and e-mail), and your dates of availability to: Bob_Peyton@fws.gov. For more information, call: 808-954-4818.

The National Wildlife Refuge System has owed its very existence to concerned citizens eager to protect America's natural resources. Over 42,000 volunteers and more than 200 nonprofit Refuge Friends organizations support national wildlife refuges. Friends and volunteers are crucial to conserving and protecting our nation's wildlife and teaching millions of Americans that their actions today determine the conservation legacy of tomorrow.