



ODA Volunteer Application

~ Dive & Boat Crew ~

Thank you for your interest in volunteering as dive/boat crew with Ocean Defenders Alliance (ODA)! Your first step is completing this application and returning it to us along with some documentation. You will soon experience the difference you can make and the great feeling that comes from helping defend our oceans!

Dive & Boat Crew Application Process

This is your opportunity to make a direct impact for marine life, and we look forward to learning about you through this application and discover how best to get you involved in our alliance. Once complete, please mail or email it and your attachments to the addresses below (or via your local ODA contact). Thank you for your interest!

To be eligible, you must meet the following requirements:

- **Age:** You must be at least 18 years old to volunteer with ODA.
- **Waiver:** You must complete, sign, and attach ODA's separate Volunteer Liability Waiver (included as the last page of this application).
- **Arrests:** By signing and submitting this document, you indicate that you have no felony convictions in the past 10 years. For felonies older than 10 years, please attach a detailed explanation of each occurrence. Some of our crew has been arrested for protesting or other actions, so convictions may not necessarily bar you from participation—but lack of honesty/transparency will definitely result in rejection. Please call if in doubt.
- **Identification:** Attach a clear and legible copy of your valid state-issued Driver License or Identification Card.
- **Onboard Policy:**
 - You must comply with ODA's *zero tolerance* drug and smoking policies.
 - You must be able to swim.
 - Captain's word is law at sea. Be prepared to be a good crewmember and team player.
- **Financial:** By signing and submitting this document, you acknowledge that you are financially responsible for your own travel, and for providing all of your own personal items and equipment necessary to execute a safe and successful dive/boat crew experience.
- **Your Image:** By signing and submitting this document, you indicate your consent to being filmed and photographed during ODA activities, and to the use of your image(s) by ODA.
- **Dive Certifications, for underwater debris removal,** divers must be Rescue Diver certified (or equivalent), at a minimum. *Please attach a clear and legible photocopy of your valid Diver Certification card.*

- **Dive Accident Insurance Coverage:** *Please attach clear and legible photocopies of documents verifying your valid diver accident insurance coverage.* All ODA divers are required to carry personal dive accident insurance.

Professional dive instructors already have such coverage in place, but many other divers do not. ODA prioritizes crew safety at all times, and during our more than 10 years of operation and hundreds of successful ocean conservation dives, ODA has never had a serious injury. However, we require all divers to maintain their own dive accident insurance—and provide proof of this specific coverage for ODA’s files—prior to entering the water to participate in any ODA activity. To assist you, we offer the following:

- Unless you have professional dive accident insurance (in which case we still require a copy for our records), we require all divers maintain insurance coverage through the Diver’s Alert Network (DAN) or a similar program. They offer three levels of dive accident insurance, and all ODA divers must have at least "Master" level coverage or equivalent. This coverage is relatively inexpensive and covers decompression as well as other dive injuries and expenses. We, at ODA, hope for yourself and your family’s sake you already have dive insurance. If not, now you have another great reason!

Desirable Dive/Boat Crew Attributes: Previous experience working on a ship is not required. Our veteran crew will train first-time deckhands. The best crewmember has a positive attitude, a good work ethic, is flexible to changes and new situations, and is ready to help in whatever capacity ODA needs. In addition to this, the following are also sought by ODA:

- Experienced wreck and salvage divers
- First Aid/CPR certification (more advanced skills always appreciated!)
- Mechanical, engineering, and/or carpentry skills
- Navigation, small boat, and/or general boat operation experience
- A history of previous involvement with ODA, or other volunteer groups making a difference (be sure to list them below in the “Why You” section).

Submitting Your Application:

Please submit your application as follows:

- 1.) Fill out application: Print application and write neatly, in printing (not cursive).
- 2.) Scan the documents (not including the first 2 page) and e-mail them as attachments to: volunteer@oceandefenders.org
 - a. We recommend you keep an electronic copy for your personal records as well.
- 3.) Mail the original to the address at the bottom of this page.

Sending us a scanned copy will help us expedite your application, and save us precious time & resources. However, if you cannot scan and e-mail, simply submit via USPS.

**Data: Your privacy is important to us. Please know that ODA will never sell, trade, or otherwise release your information to any entity—except as required by law or with your express permission.
This information is solely for internal and/or emergency purposes.**

ODA Dive & Boat Crew Application

Personal Information

Name (Last, First):	
Mobile Phone:	Email:
Residence Address:	Gender: male <input type="checkbox"/> female <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Birth (YYYY-MM-DD):
City, State, Zip:	

List any or attach medical/health/prescription information posing potential risks while offshore and/or underwater:

Dive Certification(s) and hours:

Emergency Contact Information (required):

Name (Last, First)

Email:

Relationship:

Residential address:

Best phone #:

Consent, Release, and Authorization:

I certify that I have read the entire document and have given true and accurate information on all pages. I also understand during the application process ODA may request information from sources including but not limited to past employers, educational institutions, references, and any public or private agencies that have issued me a certification or license. I further understand that such verification may include a review of any information provided through this application process. I acknowledge that any misrepresentation or material omission concerning such information may be grounds for denying my application, withdrawing any offer to engage with ODA, or my immediate discharge.

Print name:

Date:

Signature:



Ocean Defenders Alliance Volunteer Agreements

Volunteer Liability Waiver

I do hereby assume full personal responsibility for any and all risks associated with volunteering with and for Ocean Defenders Alliance (ODA), whether on land, at sea, in port, ashore, or en route to or from any location or vessel, in any capacity in which I might serve.

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

I agree for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, to release, hold harmless, and forever discharge ODA, 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 en route 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 related/arising damages if I am injured or become ill while volunteering, whether on or off an ODA vessel.

I acknowledge and understand completely that activity with ODA, whether at sea, in port, ashore, or en route 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 people on ODA's ship(s) will be volunteers who are not professional mariners and who can be expected to make mistakes that may result in injury to me. I accept full personal responsibility for any injury or loss to myself and/or my equipment.

I understand that once I am onboard an ODA ship I will be briefed on safety and operating procedures. Any time I have a question or am uncomfortable I will address my concerns to the Captain.

Volunteer Photograph and Video Agreement

All photographic images taken on ODA-sponsored dives, vessels, and/or onshore activities, whether still or video, are the property of ODA. Images are to be taken at the highest quality that the camera/equipment can provide. Still images should be in the RAW format (untouched and unedited). You are free to use images taken by you for your own personal use. If they are used in any publications, photo credit should clearly list "OceanDefenders.org" somewhere in the image.

I have read and understand this Liability Release and Photograph Agreement, and agree to both.

Print name:

Signature:

Date:

Privacy note: Your privacy is important to us. Please know that ODA will never sell, trade, or otherwise release any of this information to any entity—except as required by law. This information is solely for internal and/or emergency purposes.