



# MARTHA'S VINEYARD SHELLFISH GROUP

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## **Seasonal Shellfish Hatchery and Restoration Positions 2024**

*Ensuring shellfish resources for the economic, ecological, and social, well-being of the island community.*

The MV Shellfish Group (MVSG), a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, invites applicants for the 2024 shellfish growing season. *Hatchery Assistants* will help with the spawning, raising, cleaning, and feeding of quahogs, bay scallops and oysters, for local population enrichment in our hatchery facilities. All employees will work in the MVSG hatcheries and have the chance to take part in special projects, described below. Individualized work plans or internships may be available for those looking to earn learning credits through their educational institution. Limited housing may be available.

**Requirements and Compensation:** A successful summer assistant learns hatchery protocol quickly, is enthusiastic and open to learning, and operates well in a team environment. Interns must be comfortable working in wet-lab conditions and wear waterproof shoes (such as rain boots). Two years of college are preferred. Must have good verbal communication skills and transportation to and from work. **Attention to detail is extremely important.** Starting wage is \$16-\$19/hour. The ideal working season is May 15 - August 15. All Hatchery Assistants work 4-5 days per week. The work day starts at 8:30 and ends 3:30-4pm.

### **Special Projects**

*The Shell Recovery Partnership* collects shells from restaurants to utilize for oyster restoration and to combat acidification in the Great Ponds. Shell Collectors must be comfortable driving a long-bed truck (Toyota Tundra), picking up shells from restaurants, depositing the shell at designated sites, and maintaining the associated totes. Shell Collectors must be comfortable working independently, recording notes, and lifting up to 30lbs of weight and have a valid driver's license in good standing.

*Oyster Restoration* takes place in both Edgartown and Tisbury Great Pond in collaboration with the town Shellfish Departments. In combination with propagation and oyster disease monitoring, oyster restoration includes collecting scheduled samples to be tested for diseases, assisting in conducting population surveys, tending to remote-set tanks, and other tasks completed from shore and boat driven by the Field Manager.

*Eelgrass Propagation and Restoration:* Interested staff will assist in the collection of eelgrass seeds and shoots from beaches, docks and harbors, rehabilitating them in the hatchery, and replanting them back into the coastal ponds. Any staff member wanting to participate must be a strong swimmer, be comfortable with snorkeling, and/or be able to maintain a safe working environment on a vessel and in the water.

*Ribbed Mussel Research and Propagation* is an emerging project which aims to create hatchery rearing protocols for ribbed mussels, track their reproductive cycle and collect wild spat from local marshes. Assistants must be comfortable working in the marsh and in the mud.

We provide *Shellfish Education* to all ages, in the form of STEAM experiments, touch-tanks, shucking demonstrations and tours of our hatcheries. Assisting staff must enjoy sharing knowledge with the public.

**To apply**, please send a one-page focused resume, a cover letter of intent, and contact information for three references to mvshellfishgroup@gmail.com by March 1, 2024.