



Virginia Marine Resources Commission

VIRGINIA MARINE POLICE

A Career in Marine Law Enforcement may be open to you.

Police work on the water is vital to the Commonwealth.

Marine Police Officers must meet the same qualifications as other law enforcement personnel in Virginia. Additionally, they must demonstrate the ability to handle various watercrafts.

The Virginia Marine Resources Commission is an equal opportunity employer. Minority citizens are strongly encouraged to apply.

Interested persons should contact the:

Virginia Marine Resources Commission

Department of Human Resources
2600 Washington Avenue, Third Floor
Newport News, Virginia 23607

Protecting our:
FISHERY SPECIES
MARINE HABITAT
HOMELAND SECURITY



THE VIRGINIA MARINE POLICE

“Safeguards and Preserves the Marine Resources of the Commonwealth”

Since the years following the Civil War, enforcement officials have been working on the waters safeguarding fishermen, marine habitat and the general welfare of Virginia’s citizens. The Virginia Marine Police—the current embodiment of that security—now patrol by sea, air and land to cover over 5,000 miles of shoreline along the Chesapeake Bay, its tributaries and the Atlantic Ocean.

The men and women of the Virginia Marine Police are responsible for the enforcement of commercial and recreational fishery laws and regulations. Officers also work in search and rescue operations, enforce boating safety laws, respond to emergency calls, investigate boating accidents and criminal activity and provide counter-terrorism patrols to our military installations, shipyards and nuclear power plants.

The uniform patrol is the backbone of the Virginia Marine Police, using a variety of vessels, vehicles and air support for law enforcement patrols. Officers work daily enforcing marine habitat and commercial/recreational fishing laws. Special Agents also are utilized for major investigative needs of the division.



Marine Police Officers have full law enforcement arrest powers throughout the Commonwealth and are required to complete a state mandated basic police academy. New officers are also required to complete the Marine Law Enforcement Training Program held at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, Georgia.



Photo of Hampton Roads waterways courtesy of Kevin Heffernan, DCR-DNH.

Serving Virginia's citizens is the focus of the Virginia Marine Police. Whether it is the enforcement of fishing regulations or providing assistance during boating emergencies, Marine Police Officers stand ready at all times. Few jobs can offer the satisfaction of a joyful sunrise over the Bay, the welcoming face of a

stranded boater, the realization that American's homeland is being protected, or the personal inward feeling that nature's bounty and habitat are safeguarded. That's the Virginia Marine Police, the law enforcement division of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission.

Virginia Marine Resources Commission

Serving the Commonwealth since 1875

The Commission is a regulatory agency that issues permits for commercial and recreational saltwater fishing and construction permits relating to the habitat of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.

The Commissioner of Marine Resources handles the day-to-day operations of the agency while a nine-member public board appointed by the Governor makes certain regulation and permit decisions.

The Law Enforcement Division, one of four divisions within the state agency, comprises about one-half of the Commission's personnel component. Fisheries Management handles the regulations of Virginia's varied finfish and shellfish species and Habitat Management oversees regulations dealing with subaqueous, tidal wetlands and sand dune regulations. Administration and Finance provides vital support to the other divisions.

