

Lady Washington Seeks Land Lovin Volunteers For Hull Restoration

Local News

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ABERDEEN, Wash. - **The Historical Seaport has issued a call for volunteers to help with a major restoration of Lady Washington's hull which will take place over the summer of 2012.**

On June 14, Lady Washington will go out of service in Aberdeen for approximately eight weeks, starting with the removal of most of her rig. A team of professional shipwrights will then remove portions of Lady Washington's exterior hull planks above the waterline to expose rot-infected planks and frames. The deterioration is considered normal for a wooden ship of Lady Washington's age. She was launched in 1989. Damaged frames will be repaired and new planking milled by the Spar Shop at the Seaport Learning Center will be installed.

To expedite the work, the Historical Seaport needs you and other volunteers at all skill levels. **You're needed on ship projects Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, you can help prepare for the following week's work and give the public guided tours of the project.** If you have any time between June 14 and early August, and you plan to be in the Aberdeen area, **please call 800-200-5239 or fill out the volunteer form at www.historicalseaport.org.**

The hull restoration project is scheduled to pause in early August when work above the waterline is completed. Lady Washington will then sail with Hawaiian Chieftain in Puget Sound through early September, when she'll head to Port Townsend for her biennial haulout. At that time, shipwrights will replace the vessel's hull planks below the waterline. The project is financed by a \$167,000 capital improvements grant approved by the Legislature in 2011.