

Kathryn Kempton



PADI IDCS (Instructor Development Candidate Staff) Instructor

Inspired by the pioneering underwater work of founders Bob and Bill Meistrell, Kathryn joined the professional dive team at Dive N' Surf in 2000, but her dive education began back in 1988 in the rock quarries of her home state of Iowa, where "wreck diving" means Buicks and Chevy's. Now a beach diving enthusiast who loves introducing new divers to the spectacular marine life of the California coast, she is also happy to take the occasional warm water diving trip, and is an active, certified cave diver familiar with cave systems in both Florida and the Yucatan.

During winter evenings, Kathryn can generally be found cruising around underwater jamming one or more limbs into crevices, searching for a tasty lobster dinner. To balance her crustacean karma, Kathryn volunteers with the global reef monitoring organization Reef Check, and was in Reef Check-California's very first training class.

Diving Experience

California Coast from Monterey to Point Loma; Northern and Southern Channel Islands; Maui and Molokai; St. Thomas and St. Croix; Florida Keys; Yucatan Peninsula cave systems, Ginnie Springs and surrounding systems; Baja California Sur; Cozumel; Great Lakes wrecks; and Vinton Quarry, Iowa.

Teaching Experience

Open Water, Advanced, Rescue, Divemaster, Assistant Instructor, and the following Specialties:

- *AED
- *AWARE Coral Reef
- *Boat Diver
- *Deep Diver
- *Enriched Air Diver
- *Fish Identification

- *Marine Life Injuries
- *Multilevel Diver
- *National Geographic
- *Night Diver
- *Oxygen First Aid
- *P. P. B.

- *Project Aware
- *Search & Recovery
- *SUUNTO Computer
- *U/W Naturalist
- *U/W Navigator
- *Wreck Diver

After qualifying to teach the PADI Distinctive Specialty for the Safety Signing Diver, incorporating a communications form modeled on American Sign Language, Kathryn became one of the first Sea Signs Instructor Trainers in the region.

Kathryn also teaches DAN Provider Courses in Oxygen, Advanced Oxygen, Hazardous Marine Life, and AED, as well as Emergency First Response courses including EFR (CPR & First Aid) with AED and Care for Children with AED.

Equipment Repair

Mixed Gas Blender and Oxygen Service Technician.

Special Achievements

When she's above sea level, Kathryn's still hanging out with the sharks, as a litigation partner in a business law firm. Her leisure interests include reading, cycling, playing guitar, and cooking yummy Greek meals for hungry divers.

Diving Philosophy

Kathryn believes good divers are always learning, and has enjoyed studying with a wide variety of agencies including PADI, NAUI, L.A.County, TDI, NSS-CDS, and IANTD. In addition to her recreational dive pursuits, she holds several technical ratings. She is a firm believer in a world where tec geeks and nudibranch lovers can learn to live together in peace and harmony.

Contact Kathryn Kempton: kathyk@divensurf.com