

# Volunteer Basics

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## **Vision and Mission Statements**

Out of deep respect for companion animals, WCHS provides a modern, humane sheltering facility for homeless pets, affordable spay/neuter program, adoption services for homeless animals, and community education and opportunities for community service.

## **Mission Statement**

We are a no-kill, non-profit shelter that values the human/animal bond, provides stewardship for homeless pets and promotes compassionate treatment of all companion animals.

## **Various Programs and Services**

- Adoptions
- Hope Fund - The Hope Fund is designated for veterinary care of injured shelter (un-owned) animals in the Pacific Northwest or approved by the selection committee. It provides necessary veterinary care (including surgery), foster care and rehabilitation for treated animals until an adoptive home is found. The fund is completely self-sustaining by donations from the public.
- SNAP Program - The Spay Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP) provides financial assistance to pet owners in Whitman County for the spaying and/or neutering of their dogs and/or cats. WCHS reimburses participating veterinarians 75% of the cost, up to \$50. Financial support for the SNAP program is generated through private donations and special fundraising efforts in which the revenue is specifically earmarked for the SNAP program.
- Microchipping
- Lost & Found Pet Postings

## **Shelter Information**

Open to the Public: Monday-Sunday from 1-6pm, except the last Sunday of the month when Petco Adoptions are held

Staff Onsite: 7 days a week, 8:30-11:30am and 1-6pm

We are non-profit, limited intake shelter, which means we run off donations and grants, which is why we value our volunteers and fosters greatly!

## Volunteer Information

### Volunteer Shifts

- Based on first come, first serve basis
- If there is a blank spot, please write your first and last initial-only one name per line!
- To sign up for shifts, you can: come in, call us, or email us
- **If you cannot make a shift, please call us in advance!**
- If you miss two shifts without letting us know, we will ask you to reevaluate your schedule-this can lead to being asked to not come back.

### Duties

- **Duties can vary depending on the time of day you are volunteering. Duties are lot limited to the following list.**
- Clean animal cubbies and runs following the proper SOPs
- Practice safe handling of animals if necessary
- Wash and disinfect dishes, toys, and other items following the proper SOPs
- Maintain the running of laundry through the washer and dryer when appropriate
- Assist staff members with various projects, animals, etc.
- Maintenance of the shelter and shelter grounds
- Socialization of the various animals following recommendations of the staff

### Socializing Animals

- All volunteers can socialize with our cats, kittens, and exotics.
- For socializing under socialized cats and kittens, discuss with staff first to understand the needs of the animals and the best way to approach socializing them.
- Use hand sanitizer in-between animals, and use treats and toys to help interact with them

### Dog Walking and Enrichment Volunteering

- All volunteers must complete the dog walking orientation before socializing with the dogs.
  - This is to make sure volunteers know proper dog socialization and handling skills.
- Dog walking and enrichment orientation is held on Sundays at 9:30. There is no sign up, just show up!

- Dogs in a shelter environment are different than when at home. Please be respectful of this and not pass judgement on any of our dogs!

### **Miscellaneous**

- Please wear appropriate clothing while volunteering and always wear closed toe shoes.
- Use hand sanitizer in-between interactions with animals in different enclosures.
- Notify staff if you have any questions, concerns, or if anyone/anything makes you uncomfortable.
- Read signs before entering kennels or interacting with animals, **“STAFF ONLY”** signs can be posted for many reasons, so check with staff first!