

LOWNDES COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES

337 GIL HARBIN INDUSTRIAL BLVD.

VALDOSTA, GA 31601

(229) 671-2760



Volunteer Information

Volunteer Hours

Volunteers are welcome to come in Monday through Saturday. Level 1 volunteers must come in at 8 AM for cleaning. Level 2-3 volunteers can come in any time we are here.

Volunteer Levels

All volunteers start as level 1 volunteers and may level up as they put in more hours. Each level allows the volunteer a bit more freedom and responsibility. At level 2 and 3 volunteers are typically allowed more hands on experiences with the animals. If you are not interested in handling the animals, know that you may still advance through the levels and gain more freedom to do other tasks.

Code of Conduct

Volunteers are expected to treat all animals humanely and with care. Treat shelter staff, other volunteers, and customers with courtesy and respect.

Dress Code

Check in with shelter staff to receive a volunteer lanyard each time you come in. Wear your lanyard at all times. Be sure to return it when you check out. For your safety, please ensure that you wear closed-toed shoes, long pants, and full coverage shirts. Avoid wearing dangling jewelry. Please understand that your clothing and shoes may become damaged and/or dirty while volunteering.

Accidents and Injuries

Volunteers must immediately report any accident or injury to a shelter staff member.

Animal Bites and Scratches

Georgia state law requires that any dog, cat, or ferret, which breaks the skin, to be placed, on a 10-day rabies quarantine. If you are bitten or scratched by a dog, cat, or ferret, no matter how minor it may appear, **IMMEDIATELY** report to a shelter staff member.

Volunteer Levels

Shelter Support Volunteer (Level 1)

All volunteers begin at Level 1 as a "Shelter Support Volunteer". Volunteers must come in at 8 AM Monday through Saturdays to assist shelter staff with:

- ❖ Cleaning kennels
- ❖ Washing dishes
- ❖ Walking dogs
- ❖ Cleaning cat cages
- ❖ Laundry
- ❖ Animal enrichment

Canine Volunteer (Level 2)

After completing at least 8 hours at Level 1 and being approved by a staff member, volunteers can work with adoptable shelter dogs. Volunteers in this role may help the shelter staff and level 3 volunteers with:

- ❖ Bathing dogs
- ❖ Teaching dogs basic commands and skills
- ❖ Taking photos of dogs
- ❖ Socializing puppies

Feline Volunteer (Level 2)

After completing at least 8 hours at Level 1 and being approved by a staff member, volunteers looking to work with animals of the feline variety may help with:

- ❖ Cuddling and socializing with cats
- ❖ Playing with cats
- ❖ Taking photos of cats

Canine Companions (Level 3)

After completing another 8 hours at Level 2 and being approved by a shelter staff member, volunteers may help with:

- ❖ Taking dogs outside
- ❖ Assisting customers with visiting dogs
- ❖ Answering customer questions
- ❖ Dog play groups

Feline Friends (Level 3)

After completing another 8 hours at Level 2 and being approved by a shelter staff member, volunteers may help with:

- ❖ Brushing cats
- ❖ Assisting customers with visiting cats
- ❖ Answering customer questions
- ❖ Clipping nails

Volunteer Application and Waiver

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this application. Your information will remain confidential and used only as part of the Lowndes County Animal Shelter Volunteer Program.

Personal Information

Name: _____ DOB: _____ ID#: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone #: _____ E-mail: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Areas of Interest

In which areas are you interested in volunteering?

Dog walking ___ Dog training ___ Bathing dogs ___ Cleaning dog kennels ___ Socializing cats ___ Grooming cats ___

Cleaning cat cages ___ Washing/folding laundry ___ Animal enrichment ___ General cleaning ___

Please tell us about any other ways you would like to help:

Volunteer Release Agreement and Covenant Not to Sue

I hereby agree to release Lowndes County from all liability. I will not hold Lowndes County liable for any damage, illness, or injury sustained during volunteer work. I will never institute any action or suit at law or in equity against Lowndes County, nor institute, prosecute, or in any way aid, assist, or participate, directly or indirectly, in the institution or prosecution of any claim, demand, action, or cause of action for damages, costs, loss of services, expenses, or compensation for or on account of any damage, loss, or injury either to person or property, or both, whether developed or undeveloped, resulting or to result, known or unknown, past, present, or future, arising out of the condition or operation of the Lowndes County Animal Shelter (including but not limited to any damage, loss, or injury either to person or property, or both, resulting from contact with or the actions or conduct of any animal located at or in the custody or control of or in releases, demises, and discharges the Lowndes County Animal Shelter. I hereby release, demise, and discharge the Lowndes County Board of Commissioners and covenants and agree to defend, indemnify, and hold Lowndes County Board of Commissioners harmless of and from demands, damages, suits, costs, or expenses I have or may have for any reason or which may occur or arise by reason of my association, activity or work, now and hereafter at or with the Lowndes County Animal Shelter.

Volunteer Signature: _____ Date: _____

Employee Signature: _____ Date: _____