

Dog Walking Volunteer

The Dog Walking Role assists the Behaviour Team to provide exercise and stimulation to the dogs under the care of EHS. This activity helps to ensure all animal welfare needs are met by taking dogs out for 15 – 20-minute walks and/or exercise in the outdoor pens. This role requires a person who is physically fit, strong, energetic, and passionate about dogs. By volunteering for EHS, you will be assisting in improving the quality of life of dogs in EHS care, gain experience handling dogs, and learning new skills in animal welfare and behaviour.

Responsibilities & Tasks:

- Walk and exercise appropriate dogs in EHS' care.
- Review each dog's whiteboard and paperwork for information and special instructions.
- Appropriately use all walking gear issued to the dog(s).
- Safely walk dog(s) and return to them to the proper kennel.
- Gain and utilize knowledge of positive reinforcement training.
- Record exercise/physical activity observations.
- Adhere to health and safety procedures and wear appropriate PPE (personal protective equipment) as necessary.
- Notify the appropriate channel(s) of any behavioural or health concerns pertaining to the dog(s).
- Work in compliance with all EHS policies, procedures, and protocols, including Disease Management.
- Demonstrate cooperation and teamwork with staff and with other volunteers.

Skills & Capabilities:

- Prior experience working with dogs is an asset.
- Knowledge of canine body language is an asset.
- Must be able to read, write, listen, and communicate effectively (orally and verbally)
- Ability to work independently
- Ability to lift 30 lbs.
- Ability to stand, walk, crouch, or run for various durations of time.
- Must be able to safely manage dogs on leash.
- Ability to receive, incorporate, and sustain instruction and feedback

Commitment & Scheduling:

- Volunteers are asked to commit to **at least 1-shift per week, for a minimum of 1-hour**
- This role is **scheduled Monday to Friday**. There are 3 different time blocks available per day:
 - 9:00am -12:00pm
 - 12:00pm – 3:00pm
 - 3:00pm – 6:00pm

Role Requirements:

- Volunteers must be 18 years of age or older to participate independently.
- Volunteers 16 years of age or older can volunteer with a parent or guardian.

How to Get Involved

The process of becoming a Dog Walking volunteer takes time, as we want to ensure that candidates can learn more about the opportunity to ensure that the role is a good fit.

Screening:

- Submit Application
- Proof of COVID-19 vaccinations
- Criminal Record Check (only applicable for volunteers 18+).
 - *Volunteers are responsible for the cost of the initial record check.*

Onboarding & Training:

EHS offers a comprehensive onboarding and training process to ensure all our volunteers are well equipped with the knowledge and resources they need to be successful. **Commitment is key...** We give candidates approximately **1 week to complete each of the four steps below**. Steps can be completed in a shorter time frame, depending on the candidate's availability.

1. Online EHS Volunteer Orientation & Health and Safety training
2. Shelter tour
3. Role Specific Training
4. Buddy Shift

Benefits of Being an EHS Volunteer:

- Chance to make a difference in the lives of animals.
- Belonging to a friendly community of like-minded individuals.
- Boost your mood and reduce stress by spending time around animals.
- Hands on experience working with a variety of dogs.
- On-going learning opportunities to increase your knowledge of animal welfare.

Ready to Get Started?

Click the button below to start your application.

Apply Now!