

BE THE DIFFERENCE... VOLUNTEER!



BRADSHAW ANIMAL SHELTER



Be the difference in the lives of our shelter animals!

With more than 14,000 animals per year coming into our care, the Bradshaw Animal Shelter is always seeking committed volunteers. Volunteers are one of the most important components of our operations and serve a number of critical functions to enrich the lives of our animals and to support shelter needs.

HOW CAN I HELP? These are some of the more popular volunteer opportunities, but there are many other ways to help!

- 🐾 Dog Socialization & Training
- 🐾 Cat Socialization & Care
- 🐾 Barn Animal Care
- 🐾 Rabbit Socialization and Care
- 🐾 AM/PM Cleaning/Feeding
- 🐾 Adoption Counseling
- 🐾 Community Cats Program Transport
- 🐾 Social Media
- 🐾 Lost & Found Coordination
- 🐾 Shelter Information Host
- 🐾 Laundry/Dishes and General Shelter Care
- 🐾 Special Events
- 🐾 BAAT Community Outreach Pet Wellness Clinics
- 🐾 Grooming/Bathing
- 🐾 Foster Care
- 🐾 Fundraising and Grant Writing

WHAT SKILLS ARE REQUIRED AND WHAT TRAINING IS PROVIDED?

Bradshaw offers opportunities for animal lovers ages 18 to senior. Due to the nature of sheltering many roles require previous experience, minimum lifting requirements and/or that volunteers be steady on their feet. Required skills vary based upon each volunteer role. All roles require good communication skills, and the ability and willingness to understand and follow shelter protocols, and to work as a positive team member. Volunteers must be dependable with their commitments. The shelter makes every attempt to match volunteers' attributes and experience with current shelter needs.

WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT?

We are very flexible with respect to the days and times volunteers wish to work, however, to ensure a strong and effective volunteer base, we expect a minimum commitment of 10 hours per month for a period of at least 6 months. Committing to a weekly schedule is strongly encouraged for both the most benefit of our animals and also to maximize your volunteering experience.

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED? *

Ready to join the fun? The first step is to attend the New Volunteer General Orientation. Please check our web site for upcoming dates. No RSVP is necessary. Following orientation, a Shelter Basics session and other applicable trainings matching your interests and skills will be scheduled. **Note that we are unable to accept volunteers for court-ordered or school-required community service credits at this time.*

Sacramento County Bradshaw Animal Shelter
3839 Bradshaw Road, Sacramento, CA 95827
916-875-5848 (Volunteer Coordinator)
www.BradshawShelter.net



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SACRAMENTO
COUNTY

General Expectations and Requirements for Volunteer Positions

ALL VOLUNTEERS MUST:

- Follow rules!
- Have the ability to work independently with sound mind and good judgment
- Be able to effectively and professionally work with the public, staff and fellow volunteers
- Have a positive attitude, and support and represent the shelter in a positive manner at all times
- Have good communication skills, including reading and writing
- Be able to comprehend and follow directions and abide by shelter policies, procedures and rules
- Be willing to commit to a minimum of 10 hours per month for at least 6 months
- Be willing to pitch in to help with tasks outside of their normal volunteer area(s) when needed

DOG-WALKERS MUST:

- **Be active and steady on their feet . Able to safely handle sudden movements, esp. with strong dogs.**
- **Be able to safely lift/carry dogs:**
 - Large Dog-walkers: lift 25+ lbs.
 - Small Dog-walkers: lift up to 25 lbs.
- **Have good handling skills:**
 - Large Dog-walkers = able to safely manage exuberant, strong, often un-trained dogs
 - Small Dog-walkers = able to safely handle active, sometimes temperamental, fearful small dogs
- **Have good understanding of basic dog care principles**
- **Be able to observe dogs for possible medical/behavior issues**
- **Be willing to pick up poop**

CAT and BUNNY SOCIALIZERS MUST:

- **Have good handling skills:**
 - Able to safely and properly handle active and sometimes fearful cats/rabbits.
 - Able to safely move cats as needed to/from cages
- **Have good understanding of basic cat/rabbit care principles**
- **Be able to observe cats/rabbits for possible medical/behavior issues**
- **Be willing to clean litter boxes**

BARN AREA VOLUNTEERS MUST:

- **Be steady on their feet**
- **Be comfortable around large animals**
- **Know safe handling practices**
- **Be able to lift up to 50lbs**
- **Have the ability to easily bend, stoop, and reach**



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Thank you for attending orientation!

Things to consider before taking the next steps:

It is our great hope that each of you will become part of Bradshaw's family of amazing volunteers! To help us best ensure a committed and effective volunteer force, before proceeding, please take a moment to ask yourself the following questions:

- 1) Am I interested in volunteering with long-term goals in mind, or to just get a short-term puppy/dog/kitten/cat, etc. fix?
- 2) Can I commit to the required 2.5 hours a week?
- 3) Am I going to be moving, going away to school, or having another life-change in the next 6 months that would prevent me from volunteering on a regular basis?
- 4) Do I have health issues that would be aggravated with volunteering?
- 5) Do I meet the general expectations and requirements as listed on the reverse of this page?

We can never have enough volunteers working with our animals or helping throughout the shelter, but we must fill training slots with those who meet basic requirements, and are in a position to commit to our efforts to save lives and help unwanted Sacramento County animals.

If you have any reservations about volunteering, please don't hesitate to speak up. We'll talk it through and see what we CAN do to make something work.

THANK YOU!