**Volunteer Program**

Volunteers are an integral extension of our staff and we appreciate your time and willingness to help. To be an effective volunteer there must be a sincere interest in the work to be done, acceptance of supervision, adherence to our policies and prudent use of common sense when working with the animals. We ask volunteers to be professional and courteous at all times, and to maintain the dignity and credibility of the shelter with the public.

**Volunteer Requirements**

* Volunteers must be 16 years of age or older
* Volunteers under the age of 16 can volunteer under the supervision of an adult 18 years or older.
* Must complete orientation session (see below for schedule and information).
* Agree to adhere to Person County Animal Services policies and procedures.
* Complete application and liability waiver.

**Volunteer Opportunities**

* **Pet Pal –** This involves walking, talking to, and playing with adoptable dogs and cats. These animals need exercise and attention. Volunteers can play with them in special areas at PCAS and shower them with love and affection. A socialized cat or dog is more likely to be adopted faster.
* **Dog Obedience Training –** Most PCAS dogs are eager to learn their manners and would benefit from learning the basics of sit, stay, down, etc. Well-mannered dogs get adopted faster. If volunteers have any experience in obedience training, PCAS welcomes them to help train the shelter dogs.
* **Grooming –** Many PCAS animals have not been cared for before coming to PCAS. Their fur may be dirty matted or shaggy from seasonal shedding. Their chance for adoption increases greatly if they have been groomed.
* **Photography –** PCAS posts pictures of all adoptable pets on different websites and can always use volunteer help in getting good photography of animals.
* **Special Events –** PCAS takes animals to special events such as adoption days, Christmas parades, etc. and can use extra hands and helpers. PCAS generally schedules at least one special event involving PCAS animals each month.
* **Strut A Mutt –** walk an adoptable dog and exercise and socialize at the same time and helps you to be active too.  **9 laps around the walking track equals 1 mile.**
* **Rabies Clinics –** PCAS holds several rabies clinics each year and needs volunteers to fill out the certificates. PCAS can use volunteers at these clinics who have neat hand writing and good spelling skills.
* **Laundry –** PCAS staff need help washing, drying, folding linens used for cleaning and in animal kennels.
* **Kennel Cleaning Assistance –** Keeping animal kennels clean is a 24/7 job, so PCAS staff welcome volunteer help in cleaning cat cages and dog kennels, as well as other public areas of the shelter.

In order to volunteer at PCAS, individuals must complete the application process and attend a volunteer orientation, and adhere to PCAS policies and procedures. Solicitation or fundraising for any cause/organization other than those approved by the County and/or Shelter Manager are prohibited during your volunteer time.

**Volunteer Orientation**

The volunteer orientation session will be held once a month at the animal shelter. The session will last approximately 30 minutes to an hour. Please pre-register for orientation by emailing Tabitha Briggs at tbriggs@personcountync.gov or calling 336-597-1741. **During the school year, high school students will be accommodated on teacher workdays.**

**Volunteer Hours**

Monday through Friday 10:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Some Saturdays 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Person County Animal Services is closed to the public on Sundays and most holidays and holiday weekends.