



Weatherford Parker County Animal Shelter (WPCAS) Volunteer Team Position Description

Revised: January 24, 2019

WPCAS Medical Team

The Weatherford Parker County Animal Shelter (WPCAS) encourages the involvement of volunteers, at all levels of our agency. Volunteers work in partnership with salaried staff to improve the bonds between humans and animals, increase the number of animals with loving homes, keep the community safe, and offer a municipal service of excellence. Our volunteer family is part of what makes our shelter GREAT!

Team Impact

WPCAS has always done the most with few resources available and the WPCAS Medical Team is a direct reflection of “doing the most with the least”. This team provides over 3,500 spay and neuter surgeries each year as well as provides health care for all shelter pets which is shown through our shelter’s successes and contributes to building a strong, healthy and responsible pet community.

Key Responsibilities & Roles

Team members assist vet clinic staff before, during, and after surgeries

- Assist during spay, neuter, and other medical procedures
- Assist with medical care (e.g., topical treatments, baths, prescriptions, etc.)
- Work with WPCAS staff to understand special medical needs of animals
- Work pro-actively with vet staff to resolve special issues or barriers that arise
- Recognize the limitations of WPCAS resources (human, budget, facilities, etc.) that drive staff decisions

Location

Team members work alongside the WPCAS veterinary team in the surgery and clinic areas
403 Hickory Lane, Weatherford, TX 76086

Time Commitment & Length of Appointment

Volunteers must be counted on serve regular shifts

Clinic surgeries occur on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

The minimum time commitment is 16 hours per month. Because this team is small and each member vital to it success, we ask volunteers to commit to **at least 6 months of service.**

Skills & Qualifications

Volunteers must be dedicated to providing animals with the best medical care possible within the WPCAS clinic environment

- Advanced skills in animal behavior, diseases, and handling
- Comfortable witnessing sick and diseased animals a medical environment
- Ability to work in a highly-focused, team-based environment
- Willing to learn and follow vaccine, and other medical, protocols
- Willing to trust expertise and accept difficult, sometimes unpopular, staff decisions



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ANIMAL SERVICES

- Complete at least 1 year of service, in another WPCAS volunteer role, with at least 16 hours of service per month

Please Note: It is normal practice within shelter operations to spay pregnant animals. Team members must be prepared to observe, as well as accept, this approach.

Training and Support

Volunteers on this team support veterinary staff who perform surgeries and medical care to shelter animals. The majority of surgeries performed are sterilizations aimed at controlling the local animal population. Volunteers also act as clinic assistants, helping out with data entry and assisting with animal rehabilitation.

On-the-job training is provided to each team member. However, advanced skills, gained from at least one year working with animals, as well as willingness to follow clinic staff instructions, are vital to success in this role. In addition, volunteers are encouraged to develop a self-care plan to manage the inevitable emotional ups and downs of working with animals that need medical attention.

For the most part, most volunteers work directly with the veterinary clinic team who can answer and questions or concerns. We also offer **monthly updates and refresher training** throughout the year. Volunteers are welcome to pursue other **leadership opportunities** at WPCAS after completing their term of commitment.

Benefits for Volunteers

Volunteering with WPCAS is designed to be a **fun and rewarding experience**. Many volunteers are surprised to find they get as much as they give.

Here are just a few of the **many benefits**:

- Have a positive impact** on the health and wellbeing of animals in need
- Feel good** about giving back to the community
- Meet like-minded people** who want to make a real difference
- Learn more** about how to properly care for and handle animals
- Stay up-to-date** on the many changes that happen in the animal welfare field
- Grow** and hone your customer service skills
- Meet requirements** for student community service hours
- Reduce stress** by working directly with animals in a fun environment

How to Join in 2 Simple Steps!

- 1) Complete 6 months of service in a beginner volunteer role (e.g., Animal Care Team or Customer Care Team).
- 2) Ask the Animal Shelter Manager or Team Leader what you need to do to apply for the new team.

Contact Us With Any Questions

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ANIMAL SERVICES

Website: www.weatherfordtx.gov/animals

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