

Humane Society of Durham Region

Volunteer Canine Enrichment – Orange Level

Approved by: Danielle Johnson

Effective Date: April 27, 2016

Revision Date: July 25, 2018

Purpose

Improve the quality of life for dogs waiting to be adopted by providing physical activity and socialization through human interaction.

Description

Canine Enrichment Volunteers report to the Volunteer Coordinator and Shelter Manager

1. Check dog-walking list to see which dogs are suitable for Orange-Level Canine Enrichment Volunteers to be walked &/or socialized;
2. Check which dogs need to be walked;
3. Walk 2-4 dogs per shift;
4. Review and follow all instructions for handling each dog before each walk / interaction;
5. Sign out dog on dog walking list before leaving the building;
6. Walk dogs individually on HSDR property only;
7. After walk: record the length of the walk; add observations about that dog before moving onto another dog;
8. Adhere to dress code – cover legs, no open toed shoes, etc.
9. All volunteers welcome the public and serve as HSDR ambassadors in a professional manner;
10. Abide by all biosecurity protocols;
11. Clean up after dogs while on a walk.

Qualifications

1. 18 years of age or older.
2. Interest in/and love of dogs.
3. Experience handling large-breed dogs such as, Huskies, Shepherds, Rottweilers, Dobermans, Bulldogs, etc.
4. Physical strength is an asset.

Training	Prior to doing the first shift you will complete on-line: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="548 241 1390 275">1. General Orientation about the Humane Society of Durham Region.<li data-bbox="548 279 1430 380">2. Canine theory: On-line video on understanding dog behaviour and body language; helps volunteer to interact with a dog and handle him safely.<li data-bbox="548 384 1433 485">3. A questionnaire on dog-walking protocol and canine theory: you must respond correctly to the questionnaire before receiving hands on-training.<li data-bbox="548 489 1433 661">4. Handling techniques--a hands-on training session: covers shelter protocols for retrieving and returning a dog to a cage, properly attaching and holding a leash; teaches handling skills required to walk in the shelter and outdoors with proper control. You will be evaluated during this training session.
Commitment	Time commitment is 2 hours per week. Minimum of 6 months commitment required, with regular attendance and communication for this role.