



# Volunteer Application

Information collected on this application not only helps ensure a proper volunteer position match at the Eleanor Sonsini Animal Shelter, it also provides us with your contact information. Thank you for your interest in helping our shelter succeed in providing services to the animals of Berkshire County.

Applicant's full name \_\_\_\_\_ I am over 18 years of age: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Full home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address (if different) \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone (if OK to call) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

**Animal Handling Experience:** Please describe your experience with pet ownership or in working with animals.  
NOTE: Experience is not a requirement.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Volunteer Interest:** Please check all that apply

Dog Care                       Off Site Dog/Cat Adoption Clinics                       Cat Care  
 Clerical/Reception                       Cleaning/Laundry                       Handyperson/Repairs  
 Foster Home for Dogs/Cats                       Fundraising Help                       Other (describe)

**Biographical Information:**

Skills – Please list skills including, but not limited to, ones that you think may apply to the shelter.

\_\_\_\_\_

Other Volunteer Work

\_\_\_\_\_

Physical Limitations:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Scheduling Information:** Please indicate the day/s times that you are available:

Day of Week	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Time Available From - To							

**NOTE: Training and Orientation is required for all new volunteers.**

Once a schedule is established, a minimum of 2 – 3 hour shifts per week is preferred.

**Volunteer Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

## Volunteer Release Form

In consideration for being allowed to participate in the Eleanor Sonsini Animal Shelter's Volunteer Program (the "Program") as a volunteer, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, agree to protect in all legal actions, indemnify, release and hold harmless, the Friends of Eleanor Sonsini Shelter Board, the City of Pittsfield and the Pittsfield Police Department, including its officers, assigns, successors, agents or employees from and against any and all actions, claims, demands, damages, costs, loss of services, expenses, compensations or loss to persons or property, resulting, directly or indirectly, from my participation in the Program.

By signing this Agreement, I acknowledge that entry into a dog kennel and the handling of dogs and cats may present certain dangers, including but not limited to, injury to person and property as a result of dog or cat bites, and other aggressive animal behavior and exposure to contagious diseases and illnesses carried or spread by dogs or cats and that in the course of my participation in the Program, I may be exposed to same.

I understand that it is my responsibility to decline to do any task that I do not feel safe doing. I hereby warrant to the City of Pittsfield that I am fully aware of all dangers associated with my participation in the Program, whether or not such dangers are expressly stated in the second paragraph of this Agreement, or discussed with Shelter Representatives, and as such, I agree that I shall participate in the Program at my own risk.

I hereby acknowledge that although I may provide certain services to the Eleanor Sonsini Animal Shelter as a volunteer, I shall not be considered an employee of the Friends of Eleanor Sonsini Board, or the City of Pittsfield. No rights or benefits of an employee shall accrue or be vested in me under any personnel policies or benefit plans maintained by the Friends of Eleanor Sonsini Shelter or the City of Pittsfield in the nature of benefits under the Workers' Compensation Act for any accident, illness, or event occurring in or relating to the Eleanor Sonsini Animal Shelter, and arising out of my participation in the Program.

By signing this Agreement I also agree to the following:

1. I will serve as an Ambassador for the Eleanor Sonsini Animal Shelter, working to build the reputation of the shelter in the community.
  - a. I agree to perform my services in the Program with the utmost degree of care and diligence, with kindness to animals, fellow volunteers and the public.
  - b. I will positively represent the shelter in my interactions and conversations both in the shelter as well as the broader community.
  - c. I will provide constructive feedback to the shelter staff and/or the Operational Committee members of the Board of Directors to help improve the shelter.
2. My duties as a volunteer shall be determined by the Shelter Managers, or her/his designee.
  - a. I agree to be supervised by the Shelter Managers, or her/his designee.
  - b. The days and hours of my participation in the Program shall be determined by the Shelter Managers or her/his designee.
  - c. I agree to immediately report to the Shelter Managers or her/his designee any and all instances of mistreatment, abuse, or neglect of animals under the care of the Eleanor Sonsini Animal Shelter.
  - d. I understand that this Agreement may be terminated immediately by the Shelter Managers with or without justifiable cause at any time and without written notice.
3. I understand that this Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, without giving effect to its conflict of laws provisions.
4. I understand that I must be over the age of 18 to participate in the Program.
5. I understand that this Agreement represents the entire understanding between the Friends of Eleanor Sonsini Shelter and me with respect to the subject matter addressed herein and supersedes and cancels all previous agreements.

Volunteer Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_