

## **Welcome to Summit County Animal Control!**

The mission of Animal Control is to enforce the animal laws in Summit County and to protect the public from animal-related health and safety dangers. Our staff responds to service requests, investigates complaints, investigates animal bites, impounds stray and dangerous dogs, and engages with the criminal justice system. We also provide compassionate care for the animals in our facility as well as working to reunify lost animals with their owners and providing adoption services to connect stray animals with forever homes.

We appreciate your interest in volunteering your time and energy to help the homeless animals of Summit County. Our volunteer program is designed to support the work of our full-time professional staff and to create a path for volunteers to engage with the animals at our shelter in a meaningful and beneficial way. As a volunteer you are an ambassador for our facility and our mission.

In order to become a volunteer, you must be at least 18 years old and complete our volunteer training process. Because the process includes both on-line and in-person sessions, you will need access to an internet capable device and an active email account. You will also be required to fill out a liability waiver before your first in-person training session.

## **FAQs**

### **Who can become an SCAC volunteer?**

-Volunteers must be at least 18 years old and they must complete the volunteer application, liability waiver, and training.

### **When can I come to SCAC to begin volunteering?**

-As soon as your application, liability waiver and training sessions are complete.

### **What hours can I volunteer at SCAC?**

Various time slots will be posted and updated as need is determined by SCAC Staff and the Volunteer Coordinator.

### **Do I have to schedule my volunteer hours?**

-Yes. This allows for our staff to plan on the number of individuals in the facility and scheduling necessary duties. The scheduling portal (live link) will be open to you once your prerequisites are complete.

### **Is there a minimum time commitment for volunteering?**

-Yes. Volunteers will be required to schedule in (1 or 2 hour) blocks and will be required to volunteer (?)hours per month in order to remain active.

### **Are there any fees to become an SCAC volunteer?**

-No.

### **What types of activities will I be doing as a volunteer at SCAC?**

-You may be walking or grooming dogs or, assisting with cleaning or laundry, and if you request, you may be assisting in the socializing of our cats.

**What type of physical work will be expected as a volunteer?**

-Our volunteers should be in good physical health. While walking dogs, they may pull on a leash or even try to get you to move faster. Your safety is a priority so, if you feel that you need assistance with a particular animal, our staff will assist.

**What can I expect as a volunteer during my time at SCAC?**

-You will be given training on safe interaction with animals and facility operations. This training can and will be updated by SCAC staff and the volunteer coordinator. The SCAC facility will be a safe and positive work environment.

**What are the additional responsibilities of volunteers?**

-Volunteers will commit to the SCAC mission and support its programs and staff. Volunteers are ambassadors for SCAC and the Summit County Executive's office. Volunteers will have the ability to work with a diverse population of staff, adopting families, other volunteers and any other visitors to the facility.

-Volunteers are expected to follow all safety protocols and staff directives at the facility. This ensures a positive experience for our staff, the adopting families we serve, the volunteers and our animals.

-The overwhelming majority of the animals that come into the care of SCAC come without any background information other than the location in which they were found. Therefore, volunteers cannot make any statements about their disposition nor can volunteers post SCAC animals for adoption on their personal social media platforms.

-Please be prompt and reliable in reporting for scheduled volunteer hours and contact the volunteer coordinator should a problem arise.

-Suggestions and feedback are welcome in a respectful manner, directed through the volunteer coordinator.

-Any problem that arises with a potential adopting family must be directed to the volunteer coordinator.

-Understand that it is the right of the SCAC to dismiss any volunteer for not adhering to policies and procedures.

**Summit County Animal Control  
Volunteer Application**

Name\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_ City\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (daytime)\_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (evening)\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address\_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact-**

**Have you previously volunteered at SCAC? If so, when?**

**Please tell us why you want to volunteer with SCAC:**

**Please tell us the activities in which you would like to engage at SCAC:**

**Please tell us about any prior volunteer experience with other animal facilities or rescues:**

**Please tell us about any special qualifications or training you have as it pertains to animals:**

**What times are best for you to volunteer at SCAC?**

**Do you have any concerns about your physical limitations as it pertains to managing large dogs?**

**Summit County Animal Control  
Waiver of Liability**

Volunteer's Name\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_ City\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (daytime)\_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (evening)\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address\_\_\_\_\_

I am volunteering my services at Summit County Animal Control. I acknowledge that I am not an employee of the County of Summit and that my role as a volunteer is solely at the discretion of the Executive and Executive Staff. As a volunteer, I acknowledge that I will not receive any wages, compensation, insurance benefits, unemployment compensation nor workers' compensation coverage. I acknowledge that I am not an authorized representative or agent of the County of Summit Division of Animal Control. I acknowledge that I cannot hold myself out to others as an employee, representative or agent of the County of Summit Division of Animal Control.

I acknowledge that I have completed the Department of Animal Control's volunteer application and necessary training.

I have read and I understand the Division of Animal Control's Volunteer policies, responsibilities, and SCAC procedures. I acknowledge that failure to abide by the policies, responsibilities, or procedures will result in my immediate dismissal as a volunteer for Animal Control.

I accept responsibility for any SCAC animal that I take off SCAC premises should that animal injure another person or damage another person's property.

I, on behalf of myself and my heirs, release, hold harmless and forever discharge the County of Summit and all related parties from any claims, causes of action for injury or damage to my person or property (including but not limited to negligence and workers' compensation claims) or expenses of any kind or nature arising from or related to my volunteer services.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date