Thank you for being interested in our Volunteer Program.

Our volunteers spend much needed quality time with the animals while they wait for their forever homes.

The Lakeland Animal Shelter houses approximately 2,500 homeless, unwanted, neglected and abused animals every year. As you can imagine much tender, loving care is needed.

Our volunteers provide a valuable service by donating their time to ensure that our animals get the best care possible while they wait for their new forever homes.

- The first step to becoming a volunteer is to read all the information about the volunteer program. Once you have decided that you have the appropriate amount of time to dedicate to the program and can meet our minimum commitment of volunteering at least twice a month for 6 months, **with the exception that Dog Walker volunteers must commit to coming in once per week**.. Please go to our website and fill out our Volunteer Profile.
- Once you turn the application in, expect an email or call from the Volunteer Coordinator within 2 months to schedule a tour. During your tour you will learn more about the shelter and individual needs for the program.

Due to the size of our shelter, we appreciate, but cannot accommodate all volunteers. Our volunteers are considered an elite group of fine individuals that want to make a difference in the lives of homeless animals. If there is an opening for the position you are applying for within the hours you are available, you will then be contacted about a tour. If we cannot use your generous gift of time, your application will remain on file for 1 year.

Age Guidelines for Volunteering

13-15 years – Must volunteer with a parent
16-17 years – May volunteer independently with parental permission
18 and up – May volunteer independently

Donate your time and help save brothers like Bilbo & Baggins

Lakeland Animal Shelter
PO Box 1000
Elkhorn, WI 53121

Volunteer Program

Volunteer Opportunities!

Cat Room Monitor/Assistant & PetSmart Adoption Center Volunteer

Like to stay indoors and enjoy a furry feline friend? Then you might just be interested in becoming a Cat Room Monitor. Volunteers provide supervision and assistance to potential adopters while spending time with the adoptable cats and maintaining the cleanliness of the cat room. You must be 18 years old to be a Cat Room Monitor. Hours are Monday – Friday, 12– 6 and Saturday 11– 4. Shelter hours don't work for your schedule? Ask about volunteering at one of our satellite adoption centers at PetSmart in Delavan or Madison! Store hours are more flexible Monday – Saturday 9am– 9pm and Sunday 9am– 7pm!

Animal Assisted Therapy

Animal Assisted Therapy volunteers have the unique opportunity to provide a beneficial service to both animals and people. Animal Assisted Therapy is increasingly used to boost the mood and morale of those in resident care facilities. By bringing a Shelter dog or cat to visit one of these facilities, an Animal Assisted Therapy Volunteer can find that people from diverse backgrounds and facing a wide range of physical, emotional, and psychological struggles can find not only comfort, but also growth and healing through animal-assisted therapy. The premise is simple: the bond between humans and animals reaches beyond words, and an animal's presence can offer a powerful level of comfort and companionship that is unconditional and runs very deep.

Kennel Assistant/Laundry

Help assist the staff in the daily duties taking care of the animals. Every morning, the staff spends many hours cleaning each cage and giving the animals a clean environment to live in; this includes new blankets, litter boxes, food and water bowls and toys! This position is available in our Cat Areas. Hours are Monday-Sunday 9– 1!

Dog Walking

Looking to get some exercise for yourself and our four legged friends? Then you might just be interested in becoming a dog walker! Our Dog Walkers provide exercise and mental stimulation to each of our ready for adoption dogs on our five-acre land. From the little tiny Chihuahuas to the Great Danes, our doggies love to get out of their kennels and feel the soft grass, or snow! Our property is equipped with 3 smaller pen areas for some "drop the leash" time, or our fenced in pastures for some "off leash" time for our doggies that won't jump the fence! Dog walking in available Monday – Friday 10– 6 & Saturday 10– 4.

Bright Futures Obedience Training

Volunteers are able to work a specially designed six-week obedience course for Shelter dogs as instructed by professional trainers Nancy Doherty & Tess Warner. The volunteer dog handlers work with dogs in the shelter to correct behavioral or social issues, as well as working on basic obedience commands. This program is available to volunteers whom already have completed hours of dog walking. Bright Futures is held every Tuesday from 4– 6pm at the shelter or a location close by!

Outreach Crew

Community Outreach volunteers are able to participate in this rewarding program by bringing adoptable animals to various locations throughout the community to increase exposure to those who may not be aware of them. See our Events Calendar on our website to view some of the upcoming Outreach events that are scheduled.

9Lives is a distinctive resale boutique that is owned and operated by the Lakeland Animal Shelter and is located in the heart of downtown Lake Geneva. All merchandise is donated by generous individuals and businesses and is then made available for sale to the general retail audience. All profits from this endeavor support the Lakeland Animal Shelter including the extensive programs and services provided by the Lakeland Animal Shelter. 9Lives is run by our amazing Volunteers!

The Boutique is seeking volunteers for retail sales assistants and donation pick up/drop off. Any gentlemen interested in helping you are much needed for heavy lifting! Volunteering once a month or as often as you'd like!

We are open Monday-Saturday 10– 5 & Sunday 11– 5!

To submit a volunteer application

visit www.lakelandanimalshelter.org and click on the Volunteer tab!