

Cat Orientation

Green Level = Basic Level

Interaction with cats already out of their cages

Cat volunteer hours:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Tuesday & Thursday from 2:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Saturday from 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Some FYIs before going back to the cat area:

- There are two levels of training for cat volunteers:
 - **Green Level** – beginners (interact with the cats currently out of their cages)
 - **Purple Level** – advanced (assist with cat exercise rotation)
- Children ages 12 to 16 must be accompanied by the parent/guardian and directly supervised at all times.
- Even if you are experienced with cats of your own, please do not assume that the cats here will react in the same way that animals in the comfort and safety of their own homes would. Approach each animal with caution, just as you would any animal you don't yet know. Be observant of their body language as you interact with them and proceed at your own level of comfort when you come to volunteer.
- Read **all** signs posted on cage/room doors and follow the instructions. Please ask if you have questions.
- Please **DO NOT** put your fingers through the cage doors or use your fingers as “toys” to tease the cats.
- You will be interacting with cats ready for adoption, not the cats in the quarantine areas. You are not allowed in the area beyond the solid color (**Fuchsia**) swinging door or areas that say “staff only”. These areas are considered restricted.
- Good hand and clothing hygiene is essential in keeping the cats healthy. Use hand sanitizer and roller brushes on clothes, especially when going between rooms or after handling cats with health issues.
- Many of our cats enjoy and need regular brushing. Brushes are located in the individual rooms.
- Please remember to spend time with the shy cats that need special TLC.
- No extra food or treats for the cats, many are too heavy!
- Put away string toys when cats are unsupervised.
- Be respectful of staff time while volunteering. The PCHS staff have very full schedules and must focus on their specific job duties.
- If you are in a room when the adoption counselor comes in with a potential adopter, please find another place to go for that time.
- If you are volunteering in the late afternoon or early evening, please be respectful of the evening cleaner and allow them to do their job by staying out of their way.
- If you need to make ride arrangements, please plan on having your ride pick you up by the time the shelter closes.
- If you have not volunteered within a 6-month time period, it would be beneficial for you to retake the cat training orientation to receive updates on any changes that may have occurred during your absence. Please see the PCHS-Volunteers website at pawsandclaws.org to sign up for retraining.