

Volunteers for Animal Welfare, Inc.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our organization. Whether your knack is stuffing envelopes, working on special events, or caring for pets before and after surgery at the SPOT Clinic, you are making a positive contribution and difference in the lives of our animal friends. VAW sincerely appreciates your gift of time and commitment.

As a volunteer representing VAW, your conduct and interaction with other volunteers and the public is expected to always be professional and courteous. In volunteering, you are making a commitment to VAW to carry out, to the best of your abilities, the tasks you have pledged to perform.

The Volunteer Code of Ethics clarifies the expectations and principles for VAW volunteers. Should a volunteer display unprofessional, dishonest or disrespectful behavior or exhibit a lack of self-discipline, the volunteer will be asked to leave the premises. Such behavior could be grounds for termination of volunteer status.

VOLUNTEER CODE OF ETHICS

As a VAW volunteer, I pledge to

RESPECT

- Respect others even though I may not agree with them
- Display courtesy, sensitivity, consideration and compassion for people and animals
- Use good judgment in recognizing authority

SAFETY

- Keep safety at the forefront of all volunteer activities
- Follow the rules presented to me in training
- Respect and use equipment and supplies as they are intended
- Report all injuries immediately

QUALITY

- Perform all tasks to the best of my ability
- Ask for help when needed

SELF DISCIPLINE

- Recognize my limitations and those of others
- Set boundaries for myself – know my limits with animals and other activities
- Hold myself accountable for the commitments I undertake

COMMUNICATIONS

- Recognize I communicate both verbally and non-verbally
- Listen to the needs of others

COMMITMENT

- Recognize true commitment comes from within
- Respect that people and animals count on me to honor my commitments
- Work together with staff and other volunteers to meet VAW's goals

WELFARE

- Value my role in the maintenance and growth of the organization
- Strive to promote a positive environment
- Respect and support all people and animals



No act of kindness, however small, is ever wasted.

-- Aesop