

Marion County Dog Services

Mission Statement

To protect, promote, and enhance a positive quality of life in Marion County through the housing and care of lost dogs.



Volunteer Program

Thank you for your interest in saving and enriching the lives of Marion County's homeless dogs!

Marion County Dog Shelter (MCDS) is always looking for volunteers who are committed, responsible, and truly care about saving and enriching the lives of homeless dogs. MCDS offers a range of volunteer opportunities, including administrative assistant, dog walker, kennel assistant, in-home fostering, and other support roles. For those wanting to help dogs, you can make a difference - either directly or indirectly.

Location & Hours

License - In Person/Mail:

Marion County Dog Services
3550 Aumsville Hwy. SE, Salem, OR 97317
503-588-5233
www.MCDogs.net

Dog Services Hours:

Licensing, Lost Dogs Accepted/Returned and Adoptions*

Monday - Friday, noon to 6:00 p.m.

*Adoptions after 5pm require appointments.

Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

*Adoptions after 3pm require appointments.

Enforcement (Field Officers)

Monday - Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

License - In person only:

Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

M.C. Public Works

5155 Silverton Road NE, Salem, OR 97305

M.C. Community Service Department

555 Court St. NE, #3120, Salem, OR 97301



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Volunteer Program Marion County Dog Shelter



Marion County
Dog Services

Getting Started

New volunteers to MCDS are required to:

- Complete and submit an application
- Attend the volunteer orientation
- Complete additional training as needed for each volunteer role
- Volunteers must be at least 16 years old and those under the age of 18 require a signed parental consent form
- Those under 18 cannot work directly with the dogs but other opportunities are available
- We do not accept court-ordered community service requests

Applications are available at the shelter or online: www.MCDogs.net or at the Shelter.

For information about volunteer opportunities including student projects, contact Janice Jenkins, Program Specialist, at: 503-316-6690 jjenkins@co.marion.or.us

For information about the foster program contact: MCDSfosterdogs@co.marion.or.us

Volunteer Orientation

Orientations are held at the shelter the first Sunday of each month, 9am to 10am, or first Wednesday 4pm to 5pm (unless otherwise noted on the website). Space is limited to 15 people and an RSVP is required. To RSVP please contact Janice Jenkins, Program Specialist.

Which Support Role?

After completing your orientation, you'll meet with the Program Specialist to decide the best role for your interest and skillset. You'll then meet with a shelter staff member to begin training, and scheduling. Be aware, most volunteer roles require a minimum of 4-10 hours a month, for at least six months.

Volunteer Opportunities

Promoting Behavioral Health

New dog play groups are one of the most beneficial tools for developing good behavior; more effective than walking. Play groups provide exercise, mental stimulation, socialization, and offer interaction with fellow canine buddies.

**Roles: behavior assistant, foster care, dog walkers, play groups, kennel buddies, and dog transporter.*

Providing Medical Care/Rehabilitation

Sadly, many of the dogs at MCDS come to us with medical issues. We are able to successfully treat many health concerns; however, in addition to cash donations, care often requires invaluable volunteer hours.

**Roles: foster care, medical data entry, and summer internship.*



NOTE: Submitting an application and attending orientation is just the first step in placement. Completing these does not guarantee placement. Further screening and training may be required.



Maintaining the Shelter Environment

Medical protocols and vaccines can only go so far. Providing clean kennels, laundry, and dishes are vital to the prevention and spread of disease in a 'herd' health environment.

**Roles: kennel assistant, and work crew leader.*

Supporting the Administration, Adoption and Outreach Process

Let your organizational abilities shine through and join our administrative team. Administrative assistants help with computer tasks, office support, and filing. Get that warm, fuzzy feeling knowing that you're helping homeless animals find new homes as an adoption ambassador, and during off-site or on-site outreach events and special programs.

**Roles include: adoption ambassador, administrative assistant, outreach, and educational assistant.*

*Please check with the Volunteer Coordinator for the current list of open volunteer roles.