

Volunteer Service Agreement

Acknowledgment, risk assumption, release, and permissions



PALM VALLEY
ANIMAL SOCIETY

English | Revised August 2026 | v2.0

Before signing: Read the Volunteer Guidelines & Policies and any program-specific document that applies. Ask CEED staff about anything you do not understand.

1. Volunteer status and responsibilities

Please initial, that you have read and agree to the following:

- ☐ I offer my service voluntarily and understand I will not receive monetary compensation and that service does not create employment with PVAS.
- ☐ I will complete enrollment, on-boarding, training, and documentation before an assignment.
- ☐ I will accurately sign in and out, follow scheduling, perform only approved duties, and follow PVAS staff direction.
- ☐ I have read the Volunteer Guidelines & Policies and agree to follow them and any program-specific requirements.
- ☐ I will act professionally, protect confidential information, use social media responsibly, and report safety, conduct, or animal-welfare concerns promptly.

2. Health and injury acknowledgment

- ☐ I understand animal-related service may expose me to bites, scratches, allergens, zoonotic disease, noise, odors, physical work, weather, and other hazards.
- ☐ I will immediately report accidents, injuries, bites, or scratches and cooperate with documentation.
- ☐ I understand PVAS does not provide health insurance and I am responsible for obtaining medical care.
- ☐ I understand that the tetanus vaccination is recommended for animal-related service, is not required by PVAS, and it is my responsibility to discuss it with a medical professional. PVAS does not pay for vaccination(s).

3. Assumption of risk, release, and indemnification

I understand that domestic and shelter animals can behave unpredictably and may cause property damage, serious injury, or death. I knowingly assume the risks associated with my volunteer service, including risks arising from interactions with animals, other volunteers, members of the public, and Palm Valley Animal Society personnel. I release, indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Palm Valley Animal Society, its directors, officers, employees, and agents from and against claims, liabilities, losses, judgments, costs, or expenses arising out of or connected with my volunteer service, including claims involving personal injury or property damage.

4. Animal handling and personal property

- ☐ I will not handle or interact with an animal without required training and staff authorization, and I will use required PPE when necessary.
- ☐ Volunteers must treat all animals with patience, kindness, and respect and must never engage in verbal, physical, or emotional abuse or mistreatment of any animal.
- ☐ Volunteers must immediately report any suspected or witnessed verbal, physical, or emotional abuse or mistreatment of an animal, whether committed by an employee, another volunteer, a member of the public, or any other individual, to a Volunteer Coordinator or PVAS leadership.
- ☐ I understand PVAS is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen personal items or care of personal pets not in PVAS custody.
- ☐ Failure to follow these standards may result in removal from volunteer duties or termination of volunteer privileges.

5. Photo and video release

Please initial your selection below to indicate your preference:

PVAS may photograph, record, and use images, videos, or recordings of volunteers and volunteer activities for PVAS communications and promotional purposes, including in print materials, on websites, through email, on social media, and in other PVAS communications.

☐ I grant PVAS permission to photograph, record, reproduce, publish, and use my name, image, likeness, voice, and volunteer activities in print, video, websites, email, social media, and other PVAS communications without payment. I waive any right to inspect or approve finished materials and any right to royalties or other compensation.

☐ I DO NOT grant PVAS permission to photograph, record, reproduce, publish, or use my name, image, likeness, voice, or volunteer activities in PVAS communications or promotional materials. I understand that PVAS will make reasonable efforts to honor this request.

6. Suspension and termination

I understand PVAS may suspend or terminate my participation, with or without prior warning, when PVAS determines it is appropriate or continued service is not in its best interest.

7. Acknowledgment and signatures

Junior/Minor Volunteers see pages 4-5.

I have read and understand this agreement, had the opportunity to ask questions, sign knowingly and voluntarily, and certify that information provided to PVAS is accurate.

Volunteer printed name: _____

Volunteer signature: _____

Date of birth: _____

Date: _____

Email address: _____

Phone number: _____

8. Emergency contact information

Contact's printed name: _____

Relationship: _____

Primary phone number: _____

Alternate phone number: _____

Emergency: _____

Emergency contact phone: _____

Contact information

Community Engagement & Education Department (CEED) | volunteer@pvastx.org |

(956) 478-9881 | (956) 250-8300

Laurie P. Andrews Center | 2451 N Expressway 281, Edinburg, TX 78541

Sunday-Thursdays: 9:30 AM-5:30 PM | Friday-Saturday: 9:30 AM-6:00 PM

Junior Volunteer Parent/Guardian Consent & Release

English | Revised August 2026 | v1.0 | Ages 13-15

**1. Parent/guardian consent***Please initial below:*

- _____ I give permission for the Junior Volunteer to participate without monetary compensation.
- _____ I am enrolled as a PVAS volunteer, completed applicable documents, and will remain with the Junior Volunteer throughout service.
- _____ I will help the Junior Volunteer follow the Volunteer Guidelines & Policies, Youth Volunteer Policy, training, staff direction, and safety rules.
- _____ I understand Junior Volunteers are not limited to a separate basic-duty list solely because of age and may perform normal, including animal-related duties with training, staff authorization, and my presence.
- _____ I understand staff may direct, reassign, pause, or end an activity for safety, conduct, animal welfare, operations, or capacity.

2. Emergency and parent/guardian information

Parent/guardian printed name: _____

Relationship: _____

Primary phone number: _____

Alternate phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Emergency contact if different: _____

Emergency contact phone: _____

3. Signatures

Our signatures below indicate that I have read and understand this form, had the opportunity to ask questions, and sign knowingly and voluntarily.

Junior Volunteer signature: _____ Date: _____

Volunteer date of birth: _____

Parent/guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Minor Volunteer Parent/Guardian Consent & Release

English | Revised August 2026 | v1.0 | Ages 16-17

**1. Parent/guardian consent***Please initial, that you have read and agree to the following:*

_____ I am the parent or legal guardian and give permission for the Minor Volunteer to participate without monetary compensation.

_____ I reviewed the Volunteer Guidelines & Policies, Youth Volunteer Policy, and Volunteer Service Agreement with the Minor Volunteer and will support compliance.

_____ I authorize PVAS staff to direct, reassign, pause, or end service for safety, conduct, animal welfare, operations, or capacity.

2. Emergency and parent/guardian information

Parent/guardian printed name: _____

Relationship: _____

Primary phone number: _____

Alternate phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Emergency contact if different: _____

Emergency contact phone: _____

3. Signatures

We have read and understand this form, had the opportunity to ask questions, and sign knowingly and voluntarily.

Minor Volunteer signature: _____ Date: _____

Volunteer date of birth: _____

Parent/guardian signature: _____ Date: _____