

Volunteer Code of Ethics

As a volunteer representing The Humane Society of Vero Beach and Indian River County, your conduct and interaction with staff, other volunteers and the public is expected to always be professional and courteous. By volunteering, you are making a commitment to staff and animals 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 principals for The Humane Society of Vero Beach and Indian River County 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.

As a Humane Society of Vero Beach and Indian River County 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 the scope of authority of staff members

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 to a staff person

Quality

- Perform all tasks to the best of my ability
- Ask for help when needed
- Recognize training is essential to maintain safe shelter practices

Self Discipline

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

Communication

- Recognize I communicate both verbally and non-verbally
- Listen to the needs of others
- Advise shelter personnel of relevant information regarding the animals and my involvement at the shelter

Commitment

- Recognize that 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 HSVB'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

Volunteer

Date