

Great River Rescue Welcomes You!

Joining the GRR community affords you the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of all the displaced pets that come to our shelter. You, as a volunteer, are a valued and necessary factor in the long-term continuation of the shelter. Without your physical help and emotional caring, we could not survive.

Being a volunteer is extremely rewarding, educational, exciting and fun. You can have a huge impact on the lives of homeless animals. In many cases, this is the first time someone has truly cared for them.

Thank you for giving your time and energy to the animals at GRR. We hope the time you spend here will be as rewarding to you as it is to the animals.

Training

Training for Volunteers is done every second Wednesday of the month and will cost \$15 to attend. You can sign up online at

www.greatriverrescue.com

General Rules

1. Ensure animals are happy, healthy, trained and well-socialized
 2. Volunteers must be 16 years of age or over to work on their own.
 3. Potential volunteers must fill out a volunteer application, sign a release and waiver of liability form, and pay a non-refundable \$15 application fee.
 4. Volunteers must attend one of our volunteer training sessions to begin work as a volunteer.
 5. All volunteers agree to allow GRR to conduct a sex offender registry check on them in the interest of safety of all volunteers and staff.
 6. Volunteers agree to keep information gathered in regards to GRR business confidential.
1. Volunteers should demonstrate responsible and kind treatment to animals.
 2. All staff and volunteers are required to wash hands (use sanitizer) between visits with each animal.
 3. All volunteers are responsible for understanding dog and cat body language.
 4. Volunteers should be very careful when moving animals around the shelter. Only one animal can be handled at a time. Animals should not be moved into or through an area where there is another loose animal, even if it is on a leash.

Volunteer Responsibilities & Privileges

1. All volunteers must check-in at the front desk before beginning their session.
2. All volunteers must log their hours at the computer in the lobby.
3. Volunteers will receive special "GRR Volunteer" key chains.
4. Volunteers must report ANY injury to staff, no matter how minor.
5. Volunteers must report any medical or behavior concerns of the animals to GRR staff.
6. Volunteers who are sick or have a sick pet at home should not come in.
7. Volunteers must adhere to the privileges allowed them based on their level.
8. Volunteers must not use any cleaning chemicals without staff permission or authorization.
9. Volunteers should answer questions from customers the best they can.
10. Volunteers must not answer any phone or a customer questions without staff permission or authorization.
11. All media inquiries should be referred to the Executive Director.
12. Volunteers should use online Social Media for positive commentary about GRR.
13. We prohibit the sale, use, possession, or transfer of a controlled substance or alcohol on our property.
14. We ask volunteers and staff to park at the far ends of the lot and leave the spaces closest to the door for potential customers.
15. If a volunteer does not adhere to shelter policies and rules, our staff may ask the volunteer to re-locate or the volunteer may be dismissed.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Dog/Puppy Socialization
- Cat/Kitten Socialization
- Board/Committee Membership
- Fundraising
- Community Outreach
- Mod Squad Dog Training

Volunteer of the Month

Each month, one volunteer is chosen for their exemplary service during the previous month. That volunteer is recognized on our volunteer board and given a certificate of appreciation on behalf of Great River Rescue. The volunteer will also be recognized on our Adopt-a-Pet- Ad in the Pioneer.

Great River Rescue

1612 Carr Lake Rd SE
Bemidji, MN 56601
Phone 218-751-7910
Email info@greatriverrescue.com

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Volunteer Program Pamphlet

Mission Statement: Great River Rescue is committed to serving the best interest of the animals we strive to protect.

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