

# Volunteer Information



Volunteering is a great way to learn more about ferret care, health, medication, and meet some of us crazy ferret people. It's fun, educational and rewarding.

We are always looking for volunteers.

Call the shelter 708.442.8650 for more information.

## Time Commitment

At least one “shift” of 2-6 hours on the same day each week is helpful for consistency.

## Exercise Time / Cage Cleanings

- Once a day ferrets are placed into the playpens to exercise. While the ferrets are out we
  - Clean and refill food dishes
  - Clean and refill water bottles
  - Clean out the litter box
  - Tidy up or replace ferret bedding
- When playtime is over we
  - Clean out the playpens with disinfectant
  - Put the playpen toys into the sink and wash them
  - Put new toys into the playpens



## Environment

The GCFA Shelter has 56 animal cages, four large playpens, two desks and basic counter space and sink with one small bathroom. It is kept clean and is no different than a small pet store in many respects.

## Expectations

Expect to learn more about ferrets, enjoy meeting and taking care of them. Our ferrets need your love and a forever home!

## Other Tasks

Besides interacting with the ferrets, cleaning their cages and play pens, there is laundry, record keeping and general cleaning.

# Advanced Volunteer Work

More experienced volunteers—who have worked at the shelter for three months—are needed to take care of a few more ferret needs.

## Feedings

- A few of our older ferrets will need to be fed a soft food one to two times a day. We fill a small food bowl with a prepared mix of food and heat it for a few seconds in the microwave
- Spoon-feed the ferret if necessary or cuddle with it while it eats

## **Medication**

Twice a day our ferrets with medical needs are administered liquid medications. Volunteers MUST be trained by our Shelter Management staff for medication administration.

## **Surrenders and Adoptions**

This requires special training to handle the acceptance of ferrets into the Shelter and adopting ferrets out of the Shelter. These tasks are usually reserved for volunteers who have volunteered for at least one year.