



Montgomery County Parks Department
9500 Brunett Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20901
Phone (301) 495-2504

VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: Farm Animal Caretaker
LOCATION: Agricultural History Farm Park
TIME: Positions are available weekdays and weekends.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

The Agricultural History Farm Park (AHFP) provides a variety of historic, as well as present day farm education programs for the public. AHFP provides a variety of resident farm animals for display to assist with interpretive programs. These may include goats, pigs, chickens, and ducks. Each of these animals has special needs and is cared for daily with the help of volunteers. This position supervises the Assistant Farm Animal Caretaker and reports directly to the Park Manager.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Yearly:

- Oversee general animal care program
- Monitor and treat routine veterinary animal health issues
- Uphold MD State livestock and poultry standards and regulations
- Coordinate yearly health checks with a farm vet
- Provide an annual report to the Park Manager

Monthly:

- Coordinate with AHFP Supervisor for purchase of supplies
- Sign petty cash vouchers for purchase of supplies
- Schedule and provide animal education programming component for Parks, Friends, and 4-H events
- Oversee normal animal health issues
- Monitor and treat routine veterinary health concerns
- Provide proper immunizations and worming
- Change bedding of all animals

Weekly:

- Empty waste wagon
- Ensure bio-security of stalls and animal housing areas
- Maintain animal accountability records

Daily:

- Feed and water animals
- Clean troughs and water buckets
- Rake barn, pasture, and stall areas
- Direct supervision and scheduling of the Assistant Farm Animal Caretaker
- Maintain accountability with Montgomery Parks Managers and the AHFP Supervisor

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Treat animals with respect.
2. Ability to work comfortably with many different types of farm animals.
3. Good communication skills, good command of the English language (other languages welcome)
4. Ability to work well with staff as well as a diverse clientele.
5. Desire to learn about the live animals and share this knowledge with the public.
6. Ability to work independently.
7. Follow directions with accuracy and attention to detail.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Minimum age: 18 years old.
2. Fingerprint Background Check required.
3. References required.
4. Ability to commit to a pre-arranged work schedule.
5. Demonstrate ability to work comfortably with live animals.
6. Staff shirt and nametag required while functioning at park events.

TRAINING:

Certification from the Department of Agriculture in poultry immunization may be required at the request of the Park Manager. On the job training will be provided in customer relations, M-NCPPC purchasing procedures, and other topics as required by the Park Manager.

COMMENTS:

Volunteers provide a valuable resource for staff and the public while they learn about a variety of farm animals native to Montgomery County. This can be a rewarding opportunity to share nature with our visitors and enhance your interpretive skills.