



**MISSION STATEMENT:** Peace Ridge Sanctuary (PRS) was founded in 2001 in order to address animal cruelty, neglect and exploitation, and to promote vegan ethics in New England. We advocate for all animals - farmed animals, domestic companion animals, and wildlife. Situated in the rolling hills of Mid-Coast Maine, our sanctuary is currently home to nearly 300 formerly farmed animals that come from all types of situations where they have been neglected, exploited, or abused. We also promote compassionate lifestyle choices through humane education. We believe society needs to rethink the way that it views and interacts with animals in order to become more peaceful and just. We believe that social justice cannot be achieved unless we acknowledge the social injustice we perpetrate on animals.

**POTENTIAL VOLUNTEERS:** Please familiarize yourself with PRS's mission (above) and website to get a better understanding of our philosophy. While we don't require volunteers to be vegan, we have a strict policy prohibiting non-vegan food on sanctuary property and require volunteers to be respectful of our mission and animal residents. Volunteers are expected to uphold and model our compassionate message while at PRS. We will not tolerate behavior that is disrespectful towards farmed animals or other people.

## PRS Volunteer Application

***Please Note: Volunteers must be at least 18 years old to volunteer at Peace Ridge Sanctuary. Children between the ages of 12 and 17 may be permitted to volunteer with special interest groups or organizations on specific projects, or when accompanied by a parent or guardian.***

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Work Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Reference (not related to you) \_\_\_\_\_ Years known \_\_\_\_\_

Reference Email \_\_\_\_\_ Reference Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

## **VOLUNTEER QUALIFICATIONS - FOR ALL POSITIONS**

- Must be able to follow detailed instructions (verbal and/or written)
- Must be a team player with the ability to work with others, but also able to work independently
- Must be able to take direction, respond to constructive feedback, and talk through issues
- Must have a positive attitude and treat others with respect
- Must understand and respect PRS's mission & philosophies (please see website)
- Must adhere to PRS's strict policy prohibiting non-vegan food on sanctuary property
- Must adhere to PRS's no-smoking policy on sanctuary property

## **VOLUNTEER QUALIFICATIONS - FOR BARN CLEANING & GROUNDSKEEPING**

- Must be reliable and dependable – maintaining our care/cleaning schedules is essential
- Must be able to work in all weather conditions (or inform us otherwise beforehand)
- Must make supervisors aware of any physical restrictions you have in advance
- Commitment to Peace Ridge Sanctuary's animal cleaning & care policies
- To operate farm equipment, training by staff is required along with a clean, valid driver's license

## **TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF**

What do you hope to gain from your experience volunteering at PRS?

Please explain your personal background and experience with animal rights and veganism (if any):

What special skills, etc. can you offer to our organization?

Please describe any volunteer work (past and current) including type of work and how long you have been involved doing this work:

**YOUR AVAILABILITY**

We prioritize working with volunteers who are able to keep consistent schedules so we can efficiently plan our days. Ideally, volunteers sign up to volunteer on a weekly basis, but we also accept volunteers who can commit to an every-other week schedule, or other schedule arrangement that is mutually agreed on. Please list any other notes about your availability - weekly vs. every other week, etc.:

*Please circle the shift time(s) that would work for you:*

<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:00 am – 12:00 pm	12:00 pm – 5:00 pm
<b>MONDAY</b>	8:00 am – 12:00 pm	12:00 pm – 5:00 pm
<b>TUESDAY</b>	8:00 am – 12:00 pm	12:00 pm – 5:00 pm
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	8:00 am – 12:00 pm	12:00 pm – 5:00 pm
<b>THURSDAY</b>	8:00 am – 12:00 pm	12:00 pm – 5:00 pm
<b>FRIDAY</b>	8:00 am – 12:00 pm	12:00 pm – 5:00 pm
<b>SATURDAY</b>	8:00 am – 12:00 pm	12:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Are you volunteering to fulfill school community service requirements or another service requirement we need to know about or participate in? If so, please describe:

**EMPLOYMENT**

Are you currently employed? *Please circle:* **YES** **NO**

If you are currently employed, what is your position and how long have you worked there?

May we contact your current employer for a reference? *If yes, please list contact info.* **YES** **NO**

Have you ever been terminated from employment (paid or volunteer), been asked to resign, or resigned to avoid termination? *Please circle:* **YES** **NO** If yes, please provide details surrounding termination:

## YOUR AREAS OF INTEREST

We have many opportunities for volunteers at PRS and some volunteers help in several areas, while others prefer focusing on providing one type of assistance. Please check your area(s) of interest and write any specific notes about selected areas below:

\_\_\_ **BARN CLEANING & CARE** – mucking stalls, pasture cleanup, stocking supplies, etc.

\_\_\_ **GROUNDWORK** – mowing, storm clean-up, landscaping, shoveling/snow blowing, etc.

\_\_\_ **OFFICE & ADMINISTRATION** – mailings, merchandise, donor thank-yous, phone calls, etc.

\_\_\_ **FUNDRAISING** – assisting PRS board and/or management with fundraising, etc.

\_\_\_ **SPECIAL EVENTS** – assisting PRS staff with event planning, promotion, solicitations, etc.

\_\_\_ **RUNNING ERRANDS** – general assistance, post office & other trips

\_\_\_ **OTHER SKILLS** – technical support, carpentry, electrical, painting, etc. (please list)

\_\_\_ **DOG WALKING** – please note: many of the dogs who live at PRS have special needs and therefore we require volunteers have previous experience working with and walking dogs of all sizes and breeds as well as have good dog observation and handling skills. Any volunteers working with our dogs must be trained and evaluated by our staff prior to interacting with any of our dogs. We DO NOT allow volunteers under 18 to work with dogs.

Our dogs are walked every three hours, per schedule below:

8:00am      11:00am      2:00pm      5:00pm      8:00pm

Available day(s) and time(s) to walk dogs:

**FARMED ANIMAL EXPERIENCE**

Please describe any experience you have working with farmed animals (if any), including which species:

Please describe any experience you have had working with farm equipment, (if any):

Do you have farmed animals at home? If yes, how many and what species?

If yes, are they “pets” or are they used for food production, fiber production, or other use/profit?

Please indicate any previous experience/involvement with Peace Ridge Sanctuary: *Circle any that apply*

**Adopted an Animal      Attended a Tour      Donated      Past Volunteer**

**Attended Event** *(please list event):*

**Other** *(please describe):*

How did you hear about Peace Ridge Sanctuary? *Circle any that apply*

**PRS volunteer      PRS employee      PRS donor      PRS website      PRS social media**

**Other** *(please describe):*

Please list any additional information we should know about you when considering your desire to volunteer at Peace Ridge Sanctuary:

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN VOLUNTEERING AT PEACE RIDGE SANCTUARY!**

We rely on dedicated volunteers to assist our staff and maximize our work on behalf of farmed animals. We are proud of our extremely high standards of cleanliness and care at PRS. While some volunteers come to PRS expecting that working with farmed animals will be therapeutic for themselves, we ask applicants to realize that we are focused on what we can do to help animals, not what they can do for us here at PRS. The work that we do can be challenging and demanding, but it can also be very fulfilling. We have found that our best volunteers are deeply motivated by their belief in our mission. Volunteering is a great way to gain valuable experience if you are interested in working at PRS or another farmed animal sanctuary in the future.

Please read below carefully then circle one: **YES** **NO**

I certify that I have not knowingly withheld any information that might adversely affect my approval in PRS's volunteer program and that the answers given by me are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that omission or misstatement of material fact on this application may be grounds for rejection of this application or for the immediate termination from our volunteer program, regardless of time elapsed before discovery. I hereby authorize PRS to thoroughly investigate my references, work record, and other matters related to my suitability to volunteer.

I understand that if accepted into PRS's volunteer program, my involvement will be at-will, meaning either PRS or I can terminate that volunteer position with or without good cause and with or without advance notice and that nothing contained in this application is intended to create a volunteer/employment contract between myself and PRS. I understand that this application does not guarantee acceptance to Peace Ridge Sanctuary's Volunteer Program.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Legal Guardian (if required) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_