



CONSERVATION
SOCIETY OF
CALIFORNIA
TAKING ACTION FOR WILDLIFE

OAKLAND ZOO

GENERAL VOLUNTEERS

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What types of positions are available under the category of General Volunteers?

General Volunteers would support such departments as Marketing/Special Events, Horticulture, EMT, Conservation and Administration.

2. Do I have to attend a Volunteer Information Meeting to be a General Volunteer?

Yes, all General Volunteers must attend a Volunteer Information Meeting. They are offered twice each year in February and September. Interested volunteers must complete and submit an application prior to attending.

3. Do I have to complete an application prior to attending a Volunteer Information Meeting?

Yes, you must submit an application and receive confirmation that your application has been received and that space is available prior to attending. Applications should be submitted at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting date.

4. What will be covered at the Volunteer Information Meeting?

You will receive an overview of the Oakland Zoo and all of our volunteer opportunities. You will also participate in a short interview. We offer an optional tour of the Zoo following the meeting (weather permitting). The meeting runs approximately 1 ½ hours (not including interview and tour). Once you have completed the meeting/interview requirements and submitted required immunization documents, your application will be forwarded to the appropriate department for a final review. You will then be contacted within 3-4 weeks (varies by department) regarding next steps in the placement process.

5. Where are the Volunteer Information Meetings held?

They are held in the Education Center/Zimmer Auditorium located at the Zoo's lower entrance. You will enter the lower parking lot (do not drive up the big hill), park, and walk up the ramp to the lower Zoo entrance. Signs will be posted directing you to the appropriate location.

6. Are there any fees associated with being a volunteer?

There is no charge for meeting attendance. Zoo parking and admission is free for applicants on the day of the meeting. Zoo volunteers also receiving free parking and admission on their work days. All volunteers must purchase a Zoo shirt for \$10.00. Some departments also require a nametag which costs \$10.00. All volunteers must be Zoo Members with many levels of membership from which to choose.

7. Do I get to work directly with animals?

As a General Volunteer, you will **NOT** be working directly with animals. If you are interested in working with animals, please review the Animal Care, Conservation and Research (ACCR) section of our website.

8. What is the time commitment?

The minimum requirement for all General Volunteers is 6 months. Schedules and shifts vary by department.

9. What if I can only volunteer for a few hours?

If you can only volunteer for a few hours at a time, please review the Community Volunteer section of our website.

If you have additional questions, please contact Lisa O'Dwyer, Program Director, Volunteer Services, at: lisa@oaklandzoo.org or 510.632.9525 Ext. 141.