

Capital Area Humane Society

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You Want To Be An Animal Cop?

More people are becoming interested in humane agent work after watching television shows about animals, the ASPCA, and animal cops. This has led to the Capital Area Humane Society receiving calls inquiring about requirements, education, and job openings. The following list was put together to help answer these questions:

- Each county in Ohio has a humane society that operates independently from one another.
- Ohio has no statewide Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.
- Humane Agents are required by law to reside in the county where they work.
- For information about employment opportunities, contact your local humane society. The Capital Area Humane Society posts any open positions on the “Employment” section of the website at www.cahs-pets.org.
- Humane agent candidates must successfully complete 20 hours of training before being commissioned.
- Training is sponsored by the Ohio Federated Humane Societies. Check their website for a listing of training sessions in your area.
- Volunteering is the best way to become familiar with the work of an animal shelter. At some animal shelters, volunteers are allowed to do ride-a-longs with the field personnel. At the Capital Area Humane Society volunteers 18 and older with 20 hours or more of entry-level volunteer time are eligible to volunteer in the Animal Cruelty Investigations Department. For more information about volunteering at the Capital Area Humane Society visit the “Volunteer” section of the website at www.cahs-pets.org.
- It is helpful to have good animal handling skills and knowledge of dog, cats, exotics, farm animals, and even wildlife husbandry.
- Besides a passion to help animals, you need some knowledge of the criminal justice system and law enforcement.
- Taking classes on the 4th amendment, search and seizure, investigation, photograph, and interview techniques can aid in your job search.
- Humane agents must have good oral and written communication skills in order to speak with animal owners about proper care of their pets, and to articulate facts of a case when testifying in court.