

# Oglebay's Good Zoo Teen Volunteer Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

School Currently Attending \_\_\_\_\_

Circle Current Grade Level      7<sup>th</sup>    8<sup>th</sup>    9<sup>th</sup>    10<sup>th</sup>    11<sup>th</sup>    12<sup>th</sup>

**Skills/Interests** (Check all that apply)

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Speaking | <input type="checkbox"/> Arts and Crafts | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater/Storytelling    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching        | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing         | <input type="checkbox"/> Sign/Foreign Language   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computer        | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography     | <input type="checkbox"/> Child Care/Baby Sitting |

**Please answer the following essay questions** (responses must be typed on a separate sheet)

1. Why do you want to be a volunteer at the zoo?
2. What qualities or characteristics would you find in an excellent zoo volunteer?
3. Tell us about one activity you've committed to in the past (volunteer work, paid employment, group project, extra curricular activity, etc.) Include a description of what you did, how long you participated and what you enjoyed most and least.
4. Describe any hobbies/skills/special interests.
5. Explain any experience you have had with animals.
6. Tell us why we should choose YOU as a volunteer for the zoo.

**Please check all areas where you would be interested in volunteering.**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleepover programs                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Research (Stream monitoring, bird watching) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birthday Parties                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Care Assistant                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Summer Zoo Camps for children                | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoo Library/Office Assistant                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Narration for Train Ride                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Event (Boo at the Zoo, etc.)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching visitors about animals at exhibits  | <input type="checkbox"/> Discovery Lab (interactive exhibit area)    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traveling education programs/public speaking | <input type="checkbox"/> Handling animals while talking about them   |

Your signature indicates your approval for us to obtain recommendations. Oglebay's Good Zoo is not obligated to provide placement in the volunteer program, nor are you obligated to accept the volunteer position.

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

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this form, responses to essay questions and 2 recommendation forms to:  
Volunteer Program, Oglebay's Good Zoo, 465 Lodge Drive, Wheeling, WV 26003**

Only those with complete applications will be considered for the volunteer program. A complete application consists of this application form, responses to application questions and two recommendation forms completed by adults who are **not** related to the applicant (preferably teachers, scout leaders etc.). Recommendation forms may be sent to the zoo separately however they must arrive at the zoo by the application deadline. Recommendation forms that accompany the application must be in a sealed envelope with the signature of the person completing the recommendation on the seal.

**NO LATE OR INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.  
APPLICATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 5, 2010.**

**Oglebay's Good Zoo Teen Volunteer Recommendation Form**

Teen applicant's name \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for taking the time to complete this applicant's recommendation form for Oglebay's Good Zoo Volunteer Program. Your input is very important to the application process. The volunteer training is an intense series of programs where trainees must understand, absorb and be able to recite in their own words a large amount of animal-related information. Because the volunteer's responsibilities focus mainly on education and public relations, it is also very important that the teen be outgoing enough to initiate conversations with zoo visitors.

When we interview applicants, we only talk to them for a few moments. You are in a much better position to evaluate them in terms of the specific skills we are seeking. Please be honest. If you feel the teen is not suitable for the volunteer/docent program, please let us know. Your comments will be kept confidential.

Please mail this form to: Vickie Markey-Tekely, Oglebay's Good Zoo, 465 Lodge Drive, Wheeling, WV 26003 or fax to 304-243-4110. If you give the form to the applicant, place it in a sealed envelope with your signature. If you have any questions, please call the zoo education department at 304-243-4068 or e-mail [vmarkey@oglebay-resort.com](mailto:vmarkey@oglebay-resort.com). Forms must be received no later than **JANUARY 5, 2010**.

Thank you for your time and information.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail or phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to teen \_\_\_\_\_

**Please rate the teen in the following areas by circling the appropriate number.**

	Below Average		Average	Above Average	
1. Public speaking ability	1	2	3	4	5
2. Responsibility	1	2	3	4	5
3. Motivation	1	2	3	4	5
4. Leadership ability	1	2	3	4	5
5. Willingness to learn	1	2	3	4	5
6. Ability to work with others	1	2	3	4	5
7. General Behavior	1	2	3	4	5
8. Interest in Science	1	2	3	4	5

**Please check the area(s) you feel the teen would excel:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Working with children                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Assisting keepers with various tasks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interpreting animal information for the public | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Speaking                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assisting with education programs              | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                          |

**Please give additional comments.** Please include information that would help us in placing the teen in a volunteer position and in providing opportunities that would benefit the teen and the zoo.

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Please use the back for additional comments.

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