

PETS Volunteer Orientation Fact Sheet for 2019

Welcome to the PETS Family! The information listed below will help you learn more about us.

- Location:** Progressive Equestrian Therapeutic Services, Inc. operates at the Prince George's Equestrian Center in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. Lessons are schedule in the covered Arena. In case of rain, lessons are held in Barn E-8.
- Dates:** Start up for riding will be April 9th, 10th, & 11th and the ending date of the 2018 season is September 1, 2019. The MD. State Horseshow will be held on June 2nd, 2019. The Show Off is scheduled for August 24th (Rain Date Aug 25th). Horseshow activities at the Equestrian Center impact this year's riding season. Please refer frequently to the PETS' Calendar at Barn E-8 and your emails for lesson date and changes and events.
- Lesson Times:** Lesson are scheduled from 4:30 – 8:30PM on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. Specific class times will be discussed during Volunteer training Sessions. **Due to schedule conflicts with the Equestrian Center, activities and/or lessons maybe reschedule on Mondays. Please listen for changes and consult the Calendar.**
- What to Wear:** Dress for the weather. You may want to bring extra warm clothes for quick weather changes. For safety reasons, dangling jewelry and loose flowing garments are discouraged. A pair of boots helps when the ring is muddy. Hard-toed shoes are recommended when working around horses. Sandals are never allowed in the ring during a riding session. Bug spray is helpful in the summer months.
- Assignments:** Check the white boards for your evening assignment. If you are unable to attend, please put that information on the Director's calendar as soon as you know that you are unavailable (Work, actions, etc.). If you are ill or tied up at work/home, please call and leave a message on the Barn phone (301-627-4308). Please arrive at least 15 minuets before your schedule assignment time to check for last min changes in assignments, help your rider, and for information sharing. Remember to sign-in on each occasion for the timed worked as a volunteer in the PETS program.
- Refreshments:** Water and light snacks are available each evening.
- Injuries:** Please report any injuries **immediately** to Kim Molhoek (Director) or the lesson instructor in order to facilitate the proper documentation / care.
- Safety Rules:** Anyone who will be riding must wear a safety helmet before they may mount a horse. Never let a rider walk behind a horse. Always stay with your assigned rider. Treats for the horse must be fed to them in their feed buckets only. Cell phones must be kept in the 'Off mode during lesson times.

****Important Note: Anyone at the barn **MUST** be accompanied by an Instructor****

Thank you for becoming a PETS Volunteer!! Please feel free to share with us any questions, areas of expertise, or suggestions that will help the program grow!