



216-267-2525

Valley Riding Inc.

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Pony/Horse Camp & Youth Outdoors Volunteer Skills and Requirements

Hi Pony/Horse Camp Youth Outdoor Volunteers and Parents,
We will be having continuing volunteer training sessions every Saturday from 2:00pm - 3:00pm. We encourage volunteers to come to the training sessions to help work on their volunteer skills. The meeting will cover skills necessary to become a stellar volunteer. We are trying to be a little more organized and pro-active with all our student volunteers. We would like to invite parents along so you have a better understanding of what is involved with and the responsibilities of being a volunteer. Depending on your abilities and comfort levels, volunteers may find it necessary to come to several training sessions. These meetings will focus on practicing the skills necessary to perform their job safely. With increased training more volunteer opportunities will arise. Please meet up front in the lobby by the fireplace. Please RSVP by email or call the office at 216-267-2525. Thank you for your help. Together we can make this a fun learning experience for all.

Margaret

Pertaining to Ponies/Horses:

1. Put halters on pony/horse
2. Must be able to get ponies/horses in and out of stalls
3. Able to correctly put cross ties on the pony/horse
4. Must be able to groom all ponies/horses, including cleaning feet
5. Be able to properly put saddle pads and saddles on, English or Western.
6. Must be able to safely lead ponies/horses
7. How to help mount and dismount campers/riders
8. How to slowly trot ponies/horses
9. What to do when the pony/horse misbehaves
10. How to help campers/riders put tack away.

Pertaining to Volunteers:

1. Must be 8 years old, be a student at Rocky River Stables and have a current release form.
2. Dress appropriately for volunteering, instructor may take students down trail. No sandals!
3. Must be reliable and have a positive attitude, be enthusiastic and enjoy working with children.
4. Volunteers need to wait up front until instructor comes. NO WANDERING!
5. Understand they are responsible for campers/riders safety, like making sure campers/riders do not walk behind ponies/horses or keep them away from teeth or getting knocked over, etc...
6. Hold pony campers hands when not riding as much as possible
7. Help to focus on teaching the campers/riders
8. Ponies and Horses can have NO TREATS- fingers and carrots look alike.
9. How to conduct yourself around the campers/riders; realize students look up to you. An example of good horsemanship is to know what is appropriate to say to campers/riders. Don't mention bad things about the ponies/horses.
10. No screaming, running, must walk slowly.
11. How to help a timid or scared camper/ rider.