Volunteering at Ride On FAQs

➢ *What do volunteers do at Ride On?*
   - Volunteers have the opportunity to: lead and sidewalk in lessons with our riders, groom and tack horses for lessons, clean stalls, keep the barn and tack room clean and organized, help with feeding/supplements, and even help with gardening/landscaping! We occasionally need volunteers to help in the office as well, or with events. Wherever your talents lie, there's a place for you to help!

➢ *Can I start volunteering without having gone through Training yet?*
   - Yes! Prospective volunteers must be at least 12 years old to volunteer however, you cannot lead or sidewalk in the arena with our riders until you’ve been through Training (and are at least 14 years old). You can still get started in the barn before Training with grooming and tacking horses, cleaning stalls, barn chores, and more.

➢ *How do I sign up for Training?*
   - Volunteer Training sign-ups are posted on our tack room door or whiteboard when we set a date, which is roughly once per 8-week session. Keep an eye out for it while you're volunteering in the barn!

➢ *What should I wear to volunteer?*
   - Wear something that you're willing to get a little dirty/dusty, and close-toed shoes. Many of our volunteers wear tennis shoes, muck boots, or paddock boots.

➢ *Who do I talk to in the barn for guidance?*
   - You can always check in with an Instructor if you're new to volunteering, for guidance. If the instructors are teaching in the arenas, you may have to ask other volunteers in the barn if you have any questions. Our seasoned volunteers are always happy to help you!

➢ *When do you need volunteers?*
   - We need volunteers year-round, each week from Tuesday-Saturday. See our Location Schedules on the Volunteer page ([RideOn.org/volunteer.php](http://RideOn.org/volunteer.php)). We do have a couple of breaks throughout the year, during which we still take volunteers...
to help with horse care. When these breaks arise (Spring Break, Thanksgiving Break, and Christmas Break), they will be posted on the whiteboard along with dates/times for horse care.

- **How do volunteers' schedules work? Do I have to come at the same time every week, or sign up for a certain day?**
  - We ask that volunteers commit to at least 1-2 hours a week, based on your own availability. We prefer you commit to a certain day (or days) consistently, that way we'll know how much help we'll have on that day.

- **What do I do if my PIN number isn't working?**
  - If your PIN number isn't working for any reason, you can first go into the office and see if Nancy is available to activate your PIN. If not, you can email her at Nancy@RideOn.org to let her know the issue, and what your hours were that day.

- **How do I get my hours printed for school?**
  - If you would like a record of your hours for school purposes, please see Nancy in the office, or email her at Nancy@RideOn.org. Please keep in mind that we can only sign off on hours that are logged in our system.

- **Do I ever get to ride the horses?**
  - Volunteers receive 6 free riding lessons once they complete 50 hours. After that, they're half-price as long as you are an active weekly volunteer! Some of our volunteers who have taken lessons with us for a long time have the opportunity to exercise horses and compete at horse shows.