



HANDS-ON EDUCATIONAL FARM FOR ALL

Dear Critter Camp Graduates and Parents,

Thank you for taking our Critter Camp class, an introduction to the care of animals at Critter Barn!

To further your knowledge about animals, we encourage Critter Crew students to return and volunteer! We also encourage you and your family to visit the farm often, attend special events, and stay up to date with everything happening on the farm.

All about being a Critter Crew Member:

- *Parents:* Please read the Critter Crew Rules and Standards with your child so they are very familiar with our policies. We share this information during our volunteer talk, but there is a lot to recall!
- Become a Critter Barn Advocate! Invite others to to share the experience by taking a class at the farm or visiting during our public open hours!
- Once your volunteer completes 20 hours of volunteering, they'll receive a Red Crew Member shirt! We ask that you help keep track of your volunteer hours.

If you want to volunteer at the farm.... you must register first:

1. To register to volunteer, go to our website www.critterbarn.org
2. Choose **"GET INVOLVED"** on the drop-down menu
3. Click on **"CRITTER CREW"**
4. Then under Volunteer Shift Registration, click on **"2024 SIGN UP"**
5. This will bring you to a new page under our volunteer software – Volunteer Local
6. Enter in your email address and Critter Crew Member's first name.
7. This will bring you to an application to fill out.
8. **Once you complete the application, you can view all of the open shifts both on the farm and for our Farm on the Go!**

PLEASE NOTE children must register to volunteer, we cannot have children dropped off unexpectedly. Please sign up 48 HOURS prior to volunteering. Thank you!

SUMMER 2024 VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Critter Crew members may register for ONE shift per week. This provides more kids with the opportunity to come to the farm. Volunteer drop-off and pick up will take place at the welcome desk located in the white hoop barn next to the parking lot. Parents/Guardians are REQUIRED to park and walk in to check-in and check-out their volunteer for each shift. At the start of each shift, a Critter Crew check-in form will need to be completed.

VOLUNTEER SHIFTS:

Mondays – Saturday

- 8:00am - 11:30am : Eight Crew Members
- 12:00pm - 3:00pm : Six Crew Members
- 3:00pm - 6:00pm : Eight Crew Members

While here, Critter Crew members work alongside staff to complete chores, rake pens, help with facility cleaning, participate in flower or garden work, and help greet guests!

SCHOOL TIME VOLUNTEERING

Schedules vary during the school season, but you will be able to volunteer throughout the entire year! The Critter Barn is open all year long and is very accommodating to school schedules. Lots of opportunities are also available for homeschool kids to come volunteer during the day.

Don't forget, in December we host the Live Nativity and in April we have Spring Fling!

VOLUNTEERING NEXT YEAR

Once you take Critter Camp, you don't need to take this class again to volunteer. An annual Refresher class for ALL volunteers is required in the spring. This is to be completed by early June. This is a worthwhile class that reminds and refreshes students, while renewing friendships. Some children volunteer more in the summer than all year long, and the baby animals and changes from season to season make this class important.

QUESTIONS?

When you drop your crew member off at the farm, a staff person will also be able to help you with questions. If you ever need further assistance, keep this information and know your call is always welcome!

This year's teaching team: Kayleigh Brown, Megyn Schout, Matthew Medley

Makayla Mckellips, Programing Coordinator
616-748-1110 (office)
616-283-8634 (text)
Volunteer@critterbarn.org

Tony McCaul, Executive Director
269-838-5713 (cell)
tony@critterbarn.org

KEEP GROWING!