

Your New Dog



Information Tips & Tricks

CONGRATULATIONS!

Thank you for adopting a dog from Greenville County Animal Care! This booklet is designed to address many of the questions you may have about how to care for your new dog. Please give us a call if you need any additional information or advice.

Greenville County Animal Care Dog Adoptions:

864-467-3985

www.greenvillepets.org



MY PET'S INFORMATION:

Name: _____

Animal ID#: _____

Microchip ID#: _____

VACCINES:

Date Given

Date Due

Bordatella: _____

DA2PPV: _____

Rabies: _____

Date Tested

Test Result

Date Due

**Heartworm
Test:** _____

Date Given

Date Due

**Heartworm
Preventative:** _____

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CHAPTER 1

Settling in Protocol – Quick Guide

Please follow these suggestions:

DO'S

- Show your new dog what to do. Show him where to go potty; show him where his food, water, and bed are; and praise him for everything he does that you like.
- Reward good behavior with praise and small (the size of your pinky nail) food treats.
- If your dog knows “sit” have him “sit” for everything (feeding times, doors opening, leash, etc.) If he doesn't, just wait for a calm moment when he is standing nicely and not jumping up, etc., and reward the calm behavior.
- Use a regular “flat” collar and keep his leash on, even in the house at first, to aid in moving him off the couch or out of the kitchen or off guests, etc.
- When he eats dinner, have him wait or sit first. Once he's begun eating, move away from the dish and do not disturb him.
- **Supervise, supervise, supervise** every interaction with kids and current pets.
- If the dog is crate trained, please use the crate for calm confinement. Have him sleep in the crate at night in your bedroom. Ask us for our advice if he is not crate trained.
- Go for long, on-leash walks for the purpose of brisk exercise.
- Start a training class with your new dog.

DON'T'S

- **Avoid all use of punishment!** It is best to ignore and properly manage undesirable behaviors and reward the desirable ones.
- Don't give your dog long-lasting high-value food items (bones, rawhides, etc.), as they can cause possession issues.
- Don't wrestle or play tug-of-war with your dog.
- Don't allow too much freedom. Keep him on a leash at first (even inside your home, especially with kids or cats present).
- Don't bathe or groom your new dog right away, and especially do not try to trim his nails.
- Don't overwhelm him by having a party, inviting relatives/kids over, etc.
- Don't take him to the dog park (even if he is good with other dogs).
- Don't physically force your dog to do anything. Use your leash and treats to lead or lure him where you need him to go.
- Do not let kids crowd the dog, take him for a walk, hug or pick up the dog and do not allow any unsupervised interactions.
- Don't overwhelm your new dog by going to crowded places such as markets, parks, schools, etc.

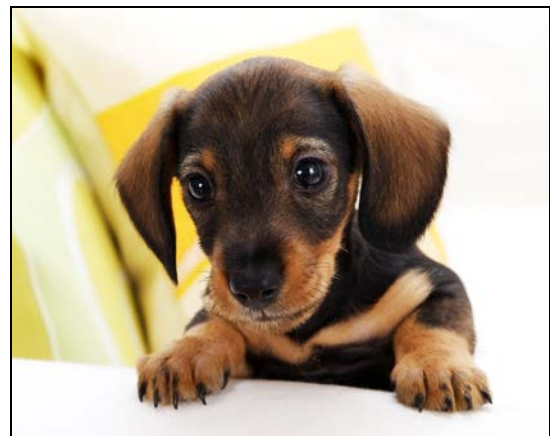
CHAPTER 2

Preparing Your Home

- Prepare a safe room where the dog/puppy can be left alone.
- Buy a crate or puppy exercise pen.
- Remove breakable objects; ensure electrical wiring is safely covered or out of dog's reach.
- Put away shoes, belongings, papers, kids' toys, etc.
- Remove trash cans, or secure inside cabinets and put away food left on the counter.
- Move cat food and litter box out of dog's reach.
- Is your fence/gate secure? Is the ground free of sharp objects, poisonous plants?



- Buy the following supplies (most of which can be purchased at Animal Care's Retail Store):
 - **Food:** GCAC encourages feeding a high-quality dry kibble suited to your dog's age and size. Talk with your veterinarian about dietary requirements.
 - **Dishes:** Ceramic or stainless steel are preferred, because they don't harbor bacteria like plastic does, and are less likely to become chew toys.
 - **Bed:** Your dog needs a soft, dry, clean place to lie down.
 - **Toys:** To exercise your dog physically and mentally, choose from a wide variety of puzzle and game toys.
 - **Grooming supplies:** Choose appropriate tools for your dog's coat.
 - **Collar/leash:** A flat collar that the dog can wear safely at all times, to which you can attach his identification tags and a 4' or 6' leash. A body harness is often more suitable for small dogs.
 - **Enzyme-based cleaner:** These cleaners help with potty accidents by removing all residual odors from accident sites.



CHAPTER 3

The Ride Home

We recommend your new dog ride home in a crate or secured in your car's back seat. Never put a dog in the back of an open pick-up truck.

- If you have your current dog with you, keep the dogs separated on the journey home from the shelter, as your existing dog may feel the car is his space that needs protecting.
- Leave the leash attached to the dog's flat collar (you can fasten it through the seat belt).
- Do not allow children to excite the dog.
- Do not give the dog a long-lasting food treat or rawhide in the car.
- Take the dog directly home. Don't stop on the way home for supplies or to visit friends.
- If the dog vomits, simply clean it up without punishing the dog.
- Do not leave the dog alone in your car.
- Before you open the car door, get hold of the leash so the dog cannot bolt.

On Arrival Home

- Take your dog on the leash to the area that you want her to go potty. Do not play with her until she relieves herself. **Praise her for using this area and give her a treat.**
- Take your dog inside; show her where her food and water are. Keep her leash on for control.
- Act very low key and don't excite her with play.
- As she is exploring her new home, watch her carefully. If she attempts to urinate inside, quickly escort her to her area in the yard. When she uses this area correctly, praise her.

- Keep the doors closed to any areas where she is not allowed.
- A calm and consistent first few days will help your dog settle in with minimal stress.

Initially don't leave your new dog with the run of the house. As he becomes more mature and learns to be better behaved, you can give him more freedom. Try not to blame your dog for being a dog, blame yourself for not putting things away.

Your New Dog's Health

Dogs and puppies need time to adjust to their new homes and surroundings. The stress of the change in environment can weaken a dog's immune system and make him more susceptible to illness. In the first few weeks following the adoption, monitor your pet closely for the following:

Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease

Viral pathogens associated with upper respiratory disease in dogs include: Parainfluenza, Adenovirus, Respiratory Coronavirus, Herpesvirus, Influenza, or Distemper. These viruses may cause secondary bacterial pathogens to invade, including *Bordetella bronchiseptica*, *Mycoplasma* spp., and *Streptococcus zooepidemicus*. Symptoms almost always include coughing or nasal discharge. Isolating newly adopted/rescued dogs from other dogs for a period of 14 days substantially reduces risk of cross-infection.

All GCAC dogs are vaccinated against canine infectious respiratory disease before being placed in the adoption kennels. However, sometimes dogs GCAC receives may already have been exposed to the virus, or a dog may be exposed within the window of time before

the vaccine has become protective. Potential adopters who bring in their own dogs for a pet meet at the shelter should be aware that their pet is being exposed to canine infectious respiratory disease.

The following can all be signs of canine infectious respiratory disease:

- A dry, hacking cough (often sounds as if something is 'caught in the throat')
- Retching or gagging (often producing clear, foamy saliva)
- Nasal discharge
- Sneezing
- Lethargy

Most dogs with canine infectious respiratory disease do not have a fever, and apart from the cough, can appear healthy and energetic. If your dog has a fever, is less active than usual, has a decreased appetite, has discharge from the eyes or nose or has difficulty breathing, please consult your veterinarian immediately, as a more serious problem may be present.

Important! Please remember that canine infectious respiratory disease is common and contagious but is very rarely fatal. We always recommend that all newly adopted dogs be seen by a vet of the adopter's choice within two weeks of leaving the shelter.



Isolating newly adopted dogs from other dogs for a period of 14 days substantially reduces risk of cross-infection.

Parvovirus

At GCAC all incoming dogs and puppies are vaccinated for the most common canine diseases immediately upon arrival. One virus that primarily targets puppies less than 6 months of age is the canine parvovirus.

Parvovirus infection causes vomiting and diarrhea which is often bloody. Puppies are lethargic and reluctant to eat. This disease progresses quickly and can be fatal. If you notice the above symptoms in your newly adopted puppy, please contact your veterinarian immediately. If your puppy is diagnosed with parvo by your veterinarian, please call GCAC at 864-467-3950.

Until your puppy receives a full series of the DA2PP vaccine following the schedule your veterinarian recommends, it is important to limit his exposure to areas where other dogs frequent, such as dog parks, pet stores, and public green spaces.

CHAPTER 4

INTRODUCING YOUR NEW DOG TO OTHER PETS

Dog To Dog

You are off to a good start as the dogs met already at our shelter, but before you go inside, take a short walk with your dogs (NOT TO THE DOG PARK THOUGH!) to help reduce stress. Arguments often occur when entering territory, going through doors or gates, in tight spaces, around food, toys, beds, games and over your attention. Fights can be avoided by giving the dogs time and space to get to know each other calmly. Keep the leash on the new dog and control his movements. Do not give either dog attention until both are quiet and well behaved. It can help to increase praise to your current dog whenever the new dog approaches.

Important! Do not feed the dogs next to each other. Refrain from giving either dog a bone or long-lasting food treat, as this can easily lead to fighting. Wait until they are accustomed to each other (a few weeks). Remember that food guarding is a normal dog behavior and there are some dogs that may never be able to eat together.

If you are worried at any point, pick up the leash and walk the new dog away. It may help to spray the dogs with water if they start to fight. Do not grab either dog, as you may get bitten by mistake.

Avoid playing high arousal games with the dogs. Tug-of-war or a fast game of fetch may cause a fight to break out as they are both energized. Do not expect the dogs to share the same bed. It may be wise to crate your new dog until a relationship is established and you know she is potty trained. Eventually it would be ideal to have both dogs, with a dog bed each, sleeping in the same room.

Separate the dogs when you are not home until they have proven that they can get along.

Dog To Cat

Be prepared before the dog comes home. Make sure the dog does not have access to the cat's food, water, and especially the litter box! When introducing your new dog to your cat, put the cat on a raised surface like a table or dresser. This will help the cat feel less threatened. Bring your new dog into the house on a leash. If they both seem calm, allow them to sniff each other and then distract the dog with a treat or praise. After a few meetings, if all has gone well, you can drop the end of the leash and let him drag the leash around the house so you can grab it if necessary. It is normal for the cat to hiss and growl at first, especially if she has not lived with a dog before. Cats take time to adjust to changes. Never allow the dog to chase the cat, even in play, as this situation can easily get out of control.

If the initial interaction isn't good then keep a distance between them to allow time for adjustment. Distract the dog with treats and reward calm behavior. You can try spraying them with water if they start to fight, or throw a towel over the cat if he attacks the dog. Make sure the cat has an escape route or can leap to a high place. Do not let the dog chase or corner the cat or vice versa. Separate them when you are not there to supervise until you all are comfortable with the situation.

If your cat hides, don't worry. Make sure the cat has a private place where she can eat and drink in peace and feel safe. Ensure that the cat has access to her litter box, but that the dog does not. Allow the pets to adjust in their own time - be patient and act calm and relaxed. Often they become friends, but sometimes they just tolerate each other. Either way you should respect the arrangement.

Dog To Caged Pet

Keep caged pets out of the reach of your dog in secure habitats in a separate room. Any introductions should be done with the dog on leash and must be monitored carefully. Most small pets get very nervous and frightened because many dogs have a prey drive towards these types of animals. Always be present and keep visits short.



Children & Dogs

It is very important to consider carefully whether a new dog is a good choice when you have young children. Many puppies and dogs think of children as littermates because children have higher pitched voices, get easily excited, run and fling their arms about, and are closer to the dog's size. All of these behaviors signify "Play-Time" for a dog or puppy and they become excited and overactive. They nip, jump up, bang into, knock over and wrestle with the clothes of children. If the dog is getting too excited, teach the children to stand still "like a tree;" fold arms and hide hands, then walk away slowly and calmly. Also, young children are not capable of handling dogs with proper gentleness. They want to hug and squeeze the

dog and are often too rough despite their sweet intentions.

***** SUPERVISE ALL INTERACTIONS WITH CHILDREN AND ANIMALS*****

Teach your children how to interact with dogs:

- Allow the dog to approach you, not the other way around!
- Pet the dog under the chin or chest.
- Don't look directly into the dog's eyes.
- NEVER approach or touch a strange dog.
- Never disturb a dog that is eating, chewing or sleeping.
- Do not allow children to climb on the dog, hug tightly, pull the tail, or grab feet.
- Keep your children's faces away from the dogs.

Look for these warning signs that a dog is anxious:

- The dog is standing stiffly.
- He is looking sideways at the child.
- He is trying to get away or hide.
- His tail is tucked.
- He emits a low, deep growl.
- He is staring your child in the eye, with a raised lip.

Most Importantly:

- Never run from a dog; his natural instinct will be to chase.
- If a dog does run up to you, freeze with your arms folded or by your sides. Once the dog loses interest, walk away slowly.

RESPECT YOUR DOG – and encourage others to do the same. Your new pet is your friend and companion. Forcibly moving him, hitting or pinning him down will lead to problems. The dog may see you as a threat, as someone to fear, and may shut off from you or become aggressive. Your pet should welcome your touch and not be afraid of you.

CHAPTER 5

Developing Routine and Structure With Your New Dog

The whole family should use the same positive training methods for your new pet. Your new dog will be looking to you for clear guidance and gentle leadership to shape his good behavior. Be consistent and patient.

- Provide clear rules and guidelines. There is never a need to physically reprimand your pet. Time outs, ending the game and removing rewards are suitable punishment for a dog that is learning where the boundaries are.
- **Please take a training class.**
- Go slowly. Introduce new surroundings and routines gradually.
- Feed on a regular schedule and teach your dog to sit and stay before giving him his dinner. Don't disturb him while eating.
- Sleeping—Don't let your new dog sleep on your bed (he can do this at a later date as long as he will get off cheerfully on your cue).
- Catch your dog doing something right (lying on his bed, chewing his OWN toys, sitting for attention, etc.), and reward with affection, attention and treats when he is polite or does what you ask.

- Initially give your dog a confined amount of space in the home—not free run of the entire house. Restrict access until you establish some training and get to know your new pet better.



- A tired dog is a good dog! Your dog will not exercise himself, so leaving him in your yard all day just won't work. Dogs need to use their brains as well as their muscles, so if you don't have time to regularly play with and walk your dog, you should reconsider whether you have time for a dog at all.

As with people, dogs develop new behaviors and change with age. You should be prepared to continue your dog's training and guidance throughout his life. Teach and train with patience and rewards. The results will be amazing!

CHAPTER 6

Behavior & Training

Understanding your dog's behavior and learning how dogs think will make life with your new pet happier and easier. Positive reinforcement, also known as reward-based training, is proven to be far more effective in creating a well-adjusted, well-mannered dog than punishment-focused methods.

GCAC recommends all new dogs/puppies and their family members attend at least a basic training course to solidify the loving bond and to help him understand what is expected of him.



Puppies

The experiences your puppy has, or doesn't have, will shape him for the rest of his life. Introduce your puppy to new experiences gradually and make sure these experiences are positive and not overwhelming.

- Puppies may whine a lot their first few days in their new home. Remain calm; this phase will pass as your puppy gains confidence and feels secure.
- Begin teaching your puppy basic manners as soon as you get him home. Take advantage of your daily routine; when feeding, ask the puppy to come, sit and stay until you give the okay to eat. Ask him to sit or wait before letting him out of his crate, going through doors, etc.
- Teach your puppy to be very gentle with his teeth on human skin and to chew on appropriate toys and bones. If your puppy hurts you with his teeth, simply say "ouch" and ignore him for a minute. **Please do not use physical punishment.** Dogs work on instincts that you cannot change but you can redirect. Hitting or tapping on the nose, etc., only reinforces that you cause pain.
- Practice touching your puppy on his paws, tail, ears, etc., and reward relaxed behavior with treats and kind, calm praise. Regularly groom your puppy and wipe his feet off (even if it isn't raining).
- Do not play wrestling games or tug-of-war. A nice game of fetch is better.

House Training

Puppies

A good rule of thumb is puppies can control their bladders for approximately one hour of time for each month of their age. In other words, a three-month-old puppy cannot be expected to last more than three hours without relieving himself and typically they need to defecate 10-20 minutes after eating.

Consistency and routine are key. If you can be at home with your puppy, take him out, on-leash, to eliminate every two hours, after every nap, after every play session, before confinement and any time he signals (circling, sniffing). Take him to the same area of your yard each time. Give him a word to associate with the action and do not play with or interact with him until he goes.

Praise him for eliminating outside. If he does not eliminate after a few minutes take him back inside and confine him for 15 minutes, then take him out again. Repeat this until he goes. If you miss the signals but you catch your puppy eliminating, immediately take him outside, praising him when he goes in the appropriate place. **DO NOT rub his nose in any errors as this does not teach proper elimination habits or control.**

- Use a crate.
- Have the crate next to your bed and during the night, when the puppy whines, take him outside, wait 2 minutes and when he eliminates, praise him.
- Place him back in the crate to sleep.
- Always keep his crate spotlessly clean; this will encourage him to do the same.

If you have to leave your puppy for longer periods (over three hours), try confining him to your kitchen area.

- Leave the door off the crate; place the crate close to his food and water dishes.
- The puppy should sleep in his crate and get up to eliminate on a hard surface floor which is easy to clean and sterilize.
- When you arrive home DO NOT punish your puppy for eliminating on the floor. This teaches the puppy nothing except to fear your return!
- When you are home, be diligent about taking him outside to eliminate and use lots of praise.

REMEMBER: Be patient. Young puppies have limited control of their bladders and short memories. Some learn more quickly than others.

Adult Dogs

Your new adult dog may already be potty trained, but she may be anxious and is certainly unfamiliar in her new home and not at all aware of what you want; so expect some accidents at first.

Take the dog outside to eliminate when you first arrive home, first thing in the morning, before confinement (if you go out), immediately after confinement, after his dinner, just before you go to bed, and any time she signals a need to go.

If your dog, no matter what age, continues to eliminate in the house when you are at home, attach a leash to the dog's flat collar and tie it to your waist! This way you can watch your dog and take him outside when he begins to show signs of needing to eliminate.

Submissive and Excitement Urination

Less confident dogs sometimes urinate to show submission or in excitement to greet you. They want you to know that they pose no threat or challenge to you.

- Do not punish your dog, as this makes matters worse.
- Just ignore your dog, do not make eye contact or lean over to pet him.
- Try to distract the dog with another activity such as catching a treat or going to get a toy.
- Building confidence by practicing basic manners and agility games may help.
- As your dog's confidence grows, the problem should lessen and eventually stop.
- Instruct guests to ignore the dog on arrival and to praise him verbally when he sits, lies down, etc. (everyone can help with training).

Methods That DO NOT Work:

- Hitting your dog.
- Pushing the dog's nose in his accidents.
- Shouting.

These methods lead to your dog being more worried, making the urination worse.

Cleaning

When cleaning up an accident, use an enzyme-based cleaner to effectively remove all odors.



Crate Training

Crates are actually an excellent choice for most puppies and adult dogs as they keep the pet and your belongings safe when you are not able to supervise. They aid in potty training because a dog will not want to soil his sleeping area. Select a crate big enough to allow the puppy/dog to stand up and turn around and stretch out when lying down.



Why Use A Crate?

- To provide a den for your dog.
- To help calm and nurture your dog in the new environment.
- As a potty training aid.
- As a safe way to travel in your car.
- For airline travel.
- Good in hotels where pets are allowed.
- As a recovery room from illness or surgery.
- As a sanctuary when things get hectic.
- In some mild cases, it can be helpful for anxiety to help prevent destructive chewing.
- To protect your pet from children who cannot act appropriately around dogs.

Crate Do's and Don'ts

DO'S

- Make the crate a positive place.
- Use treats and toys to lead the dog into the crate.
- Feed the dog his dinner in the crate at first.
- Leave the door open initially.
- Hide food treats in the crate.
- Place a clean, soft bed in the crate.
- Place a shirt with your scent on it in the crate.
- Encourage your dog to sleep in his crate.
- Praise and pet him when he is inside his crate.
- Stay close when you first close the door.
- Teach your dog to “wait” before coming out.

DON'TS:

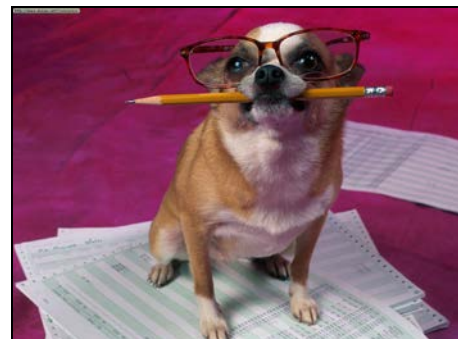
- Force a dog or puppy into a crate.
- Use the crate for punishment.
- Keep the crate in an isolated area.
- Leave your dog in his crate for more than six hours.
- Talk to or let him out when whining.
- Choose a crate that is too large. If your dog can eliminate in one corner and sleep in another, the crate will not help teach good potty habits.
- Choose a crate that is too small. Your dog should be able to sit up and turn around. For a growing puppy you may wish to choose a larger crate and initially block off part of the space (with a box). As the dog gets larger, you can remove the partition.

Remember, the crate should never take away from the contact and socialization that your dog needs from you and your family. The dog needs to spend much more time out of the crate than in.

Chewing

Chewing is a normal and necessary behavior to promote healthy teeth and gums. All dogs should have their own chew toys. Avoid cooked bones, poultry bones and rib bones as they tend to splinter and cause choking or intestinal problems.

- We recommend you supervise your dog when he has a chew toy/bone.
- Avoid toys with squeakies or pieces that can be swallowed.
- Show your dog the appropriate chew toy and make a big fuss over it. Praise your dog when he takes the toy. Sometimes smearing a little peanut butter or cream cheese on the toy can make it more appealing.
- If your dog tries to chew on inappropriate items, distract him, and give him an appropriate toy. Praise him and play with him briefly when he chews his toy.
- Teach your dog to “drop it” and “leave it” so you can exchange an unsuitable chewy for a more appropriate one.
- Prepare your home by putting away items you value; the dog doesn't know the difference between your things and his toys.
- Prepare a puppy-proof room or crate, so he doesn't have access to unsuitable chew items when you can't supervise him.
- Bitter tasting (but safe) substances such as “Bitter Apple” can be sprayed on objects and may discourage chewing.
- Remember to reward good behavior.



Jumping Up

This is merely an inappropriate greeting behavior, as your dog is excited to see you.

Solution:

- Ignore the dog, stand still, fold your arms, and look away. The second your dog's feet remain on the floor, acknowledge and greet her. If she jumps up again, immediately stand still, fold arms and look away. Repeat every time the dog jumps. NOTE: your family and friends should all follow this training plan as it needs to be consistent!
- Teach your dog to sit to be greeted and reward quickly before she jumps. If she jumps, repeat the above.
- Keep her on a leash, so you can prevent her from jumping on guests.

Barking

Dogs bark to alert you of danger, because they are lonely, bored or anxious and seeking attention, or because they are being teased by an outside influence (i.e., squirrels).

Solution:

- Keep your dog inside your home when you are not there.
- Leave on the radio or TV to mask outside noises.
- Ignore your dog if he is barking for attention.

Consistently reward the silent pauses with your attention. Your dog will learn that he is not rewarded for barking and hopefully will stop.

Digging

Usually dogs dig because they are bored or left outside for too long. However, digging is a normal activity for dogs and many of them really enjoy it.

Solution:

- Control digging by spending more time with your dog, giving him plenty of exercise, keeping him indoors, and providing him with toys.
- Direct the behavior by designating an area in the yard where it is acceptable for your dog to dig. Encourage him to use this area. You can buy him a sandbox where he is allowed to dig.
- You can also try covering the spot with dirt and securing chicken wire on top, or placing the dog's feces in the spot where he likes to dig.

Bolting Through Doors/Gates

Bolting can be a very serious problem that may show up at your home in the first few days before your new dog realizes she lives with you!

Solutions:

- In the beginning, put your new dog on leash before opening the door, even if you are only going into your fenced yard. This extra control will teach and guide your dog to be calm and learn boundaries.
- Teach your dog to "wait" at every door or gate until you release her to go through. Going to a training class is a great way to learn how.
- If she escapes, don't run directly after her as this can often be seen as a game, and she probably will run away faster! Instead, try turning around, calling her happily and running away at an angle and the dog may turn around and chase you safely home.
- If your dog approaches you, try crouching down and offering a cookie to lure the dog to you. Talk in a "happy" voice to attract your dog.
- Remember, some breeds are more likely to roam than others; research the breed before adopting the dog.

Home-Along Anxiety

Usually within 30 minutes of the owner departing, the dog attempts to get out to find his owner. Tremendous damage can be done to door frames, drapes, windowsills, furniture, blinds, etc. Dogs can injure themselves in their panic. Putting a dog in a crate or kennel can increase the anxiety, and they can break their teeth and rip out their nails in a frantic effort to get out. Food is rarely a distraction. Most dogs will be too frantic to even notice treats. The dog also may urinate and defecate because of his anxiety.

The dog is not being willfully destructive or malicious.

Punishing the dog does no good as it only confuses your already anxious and distraught pet. Usually the dog is extremely affectionate, calm and loving when in the presence of his owner. The attachment formed is very strong, so much so that the dog feels intense panic when the owner leaves, feeling unable to cope with being left alone.

What can you do?

Please consult a board-certified veterinary behaviorist to obtain a proper diagnosis and for more information on this problem. Treating your dog with medication may be necessary to take the edge off his anxiety and enable you to implement a behavior modification training program.

The Outdoor Dog

It can not be stressed enough: the more time a dog spends with you, the more quickly he will become a well-behaved member of your family. When a dog is isolated for long periods, he will develop bad habits, beginning a cycle of you wanting to spend less and less time with him.

- Your dog will not appropriately exercise in your yard by himself.
- Your back yard can be a place of danger or cause bad habits.
- Your dog may become territorial and feel he has to patrol the area, barking.
- A dog left alone in the back yard can be subject to mistreatment or be stolen.
- A dog tied up in the back yard does not serve as a deterrent to potential burglars who know they will have free reign in your home.
- REMEMBER dogs need to be with you to learn good behavior.

Training At Home

Reward the good behavior and the good behavior will increase. (Rewards include: food, toys, petting, putting on the leash, opening doors, going for walks, etc.) .

Many bad behaviors can be significantly reduced if your pet is exercised regularly. Take him for a long, brisk walk and play fetch. Keep him tired!

Remember...

- Dogs “act out” because we are not clear with what we want them TO do - so they are confused (not stubborn) and just act like dogs! Show your dog how you wish him to behave and reward the good behavior.
- The dog has to be around you and your family to learn good behavior.
- Giving a reward for the right behavior is proven to be a faster and easier way for dogs to learn (you only have to teach one response - the right one!).
- Make use of everyday activities and turn them into mini-training sessions (i.e., wait until your dog sits and stays before giving him his food dish, sits and waits at the door before it is opened, etc.).
- Teach your dog not to pull on the leash by changing your direction every time he pulls.

CHAPTER 7

Medical Treatment

While at Greenville County Animal Care, the dog you adopted may have received the following vaccines and/or treatments:

DA2PP - This is a standard vaccine administered to dogs. It provides protection against canine distemper, adenovirus, parvovirus and parainfluenza. Puppies and some dogs need additional boosters of this vaccine administered by your veterinarian over a period of weeks to achieve maximum immunity from diseases.

Until these are completed, it is best to limit exposure to other dogs. Many serious dog illnesses are spread by fecal material from other dogs -- so properly dispose of waste and avoid areas of elimination used by other dogs. Parvovirus is an especially contagious and often fatal disease which primarily affects puppies, so any dog under one year of age without sufficient vaccine boosters should not be taken to public parks or outdoor areas, even sidewalks, until he has received a full series of DA2PP vaccine. Your veterinarian will work with you to determine a booster schedule and may recommend additional vaccines based on your dog's age and lifestyle.

BORDETELLA - Bordetella, or canine tracheobronchitis, is an upper respiratory illness spread in facilities with lots of other dogs. All animal shelters are familiar with this disease and most protect all incoming dogs by administering a bordetella vaccine. However, the dogs often come in contact with the bacteria before the vaccine takes full effect, so often dogs leaving the shelter will develop an illness with cold-like symptoms. Other dogs can catch this cold, so limit contact with other dogs until you have observed your dog for symptoms

for a week or longer. Should symptoms develop, keep him quiet, entice him to eat and get plenty of rest. Your veterinarian may prescribe antibiotics to prevent him from developing a secondary infection. Canine infectious tracheobronchitis is most often characterized by a frequent dry cough which is aggravated by pressure from pulling on the leash or strenuous activity. Most dogs seem to be minimally affected by the illness and continue to behave normally, eat, and play. Lethargy, reluctance to eat, or white or yellow nasal discharge could be signs that the canine infectious respiratory disease has progressed into a more serious respiratory infection or even pneumonia, so see your veterinarian right away if you notice these symptoms.

RABIES VACCINE - GCAC uses a one-year vaccine. Follow your veterinarian's advice regarding follow-up vaccination.

WORMING – Medication(s) to eliminate roundworms, hookworms, whipworms, and/or tapeworms is given to all dogs upon intake. GCAC usually uses a medication called Pyrantal (brand name Strongid-t.) Do not be surprised to see worms passed in your dog's elimination. This is to be expected. Continued treatment and other types of parasite control may be recommended by your veterinarian to treat a wider range of parasites.

ANTIBIOTICS and OTHER MEDICATIONS - When an animal is sick with an upper respiratory infection we may prescribe antibiotics to treat the illness. If your newly adopted dog has antibiotics or other medication to go home with him, it is important that you follow the dispensing directions carefully and follow up with your veterinarian for rechecks and further treatment if needed.

FLEA/PARASITE CONTROL - Many products exist that protect your dog from fleas and parasites. If you travel with your dog, you will want to protect him from illnesses spread by fleas and ticks in other parts of the country. You may purchase a wide range of high quality flea control products at our Adoption Center, which are safer and more effective than over-the-counter flea products.

HEARTWORM - GCAC tests all dogs five (5) months of age and over, for heartworm disease. The disease is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. We recommend all dogs receive monthly preventative after adoption. You may purchase a wide range of high quality heartworm preventatives at our Adoption Center.

SPAYING/NEUTERING - All dogs and puppies that arrive at GCAC unaltered will be spayed or neutered by our shelter veterinarians at Greenville County Animal Care's Clinic. The Spay incision is closed using dissolvable sutures as well as surgical adhesive, and there are no external sutures. The Neuter incision is closed using surgical adhesive, and there are no

external sutures. If you have any concerns or further questions please contact your new pet's veterinarian immediately. In the event you believe your pet is experiencing a medical problem related to surgery done at Greenville County Animal Care's Clinic, please call 864-467-7729 between 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. We cannot be held responsible for complications arising from a failure to follow the postoperative instructions.

GROOMING - Certain dog breeds require professional grooming. Grooming is not merely for looks; it allows for freedom of movement and allows the skin to breathe. Neglecting this type of care can constitute neglect and can cause suffering.

VETERINARIAN VISIT - GCAC recommends that all adopted puppies and dogs have a wellness visit with a veterinarian within two weeks of leaving the facility.

CHAPTER 8

CONCLUSION

Animals in our lives provide a blessing and an opportunity to share the world with another species. It is a responsibility to take seriously. “Working through” behavior and medical issues will deepen your relationship with your animals and provide a valuable lesson to children and adults that the bond is indeed one that will endure tough times and last for the lifetime of your pet. “Getting rid” of an animal because it does not meet expectations, has not been taught good manners, or needs expensive medical care is a poor example of animal ownership.

When the match isn’t right...

Sometimes a relationship is not successful. If keeping your companion animal becomes impossible, please notify Greenville County Animal Care Dog Adoptions at 864-467-3985 of plans to return your animal to Greenville County Animal Care.

Animals adopted within thirty (30) days, may be returned to the Adoption Area. Animals adopted over thirty (30) days ago, must be turned in as Owner Surrenders in our Dog and Cat Intake areas.

In some cases, an exchange will be offered to you for another animal. Depending on the reason for surrender, GCAC may place restrictions on the types of animals you select to prevent another poor match. For instance, if the dog you selected did not interact well with kids, it will be important that the next animal has a good history with children.

Plan for Pets During Disaster

REMEMBER: If you must evacuate, take your pet(s) with you!

Greenville County Animal Care encourages pet owners to keep their pets in mind when preparing for disaster or an emergency. While the sun is still shining, consider packing a “pet survival” kit which could be easily deployed if disaster hits.

In order to contain and control your pets during an evacuation, you’ll need a harness and leash for each dog and a carrier for each cat.

Pet first aid kits and vaccination records are a must.

Remember any pet medication, favorite toy or bed, and some treats.

Tag, microchip, and photograph your pets. Current identification is the single most important thing you can do to help ensure that you will be reunited with a lost pet. Make certain your pet (even an indoor-only cat) is wearing a collar with visible identification tags with your phone number. A microchip implant is a secure form of identification that can’t be lost. Be sure to carry a photograph with you to increase the likelihood of finding a missing pet.

Tip: Store photos of your pets on your cell phone

All of us at Greenville County Animal Care want to help you make the right pet choice and to keep the loving bond for the lifetime of the pet.

Please give us a call at 864-467-3985 with any questions you may have; we are glad to assist!

Services Directory

GCAC is dedicated to making our community a better place. Call (864) 467-3950 for more information or visit us online at www.greenvillepets.org.

Adoptions

Cats and kittens are available for adoption. (864) 467-3905. adoptapet@greenvillecounty.org.

Dogs and puppies are available for adoption. (864) 467-3985. adoptapet@greenvillecounty.org.

Animal Control/Welfare Services:

Greenville City Animal Control – (864) 271-5333.
<http://police.greenvillesc.gov/animal-control.aspx>.

Greenville County Animal Control – (864) 467-7595.
www.greenvillecounty.org/Codes_Enforcement/animals.asp.

Anderson County – (864) 260-5576

Fountain Inn City Animal Control – (864) 409-3334.
Email: lori.cooper@fountaininn.org.
www.fountaininn.org.

Greer City Animal Control – (864) 848-5363.
Email: srutgers@cityofgreer.org.
www.cityofgreer.org/departments/animal_control.php.

Laurens County – (864) 984-6812

Mauldin City Animal Control – (864) 289-8900.
www.cityofmauldin.org.

Pickens County – (864) 898-5929

Simpsonville City Animal Control – (864) 967-9531, Ext. 108.
Email: cdixon@simpsonvillepublicworks.org.
www.simpsonville.com.

Spartanburg County Animal Control – (864) 596-3582

Traveler’s Rest City Animal Control – (864) 834-9029.
Email: fallen@trpolice.com.
www.trpolice.com.

Animal Sheltering Assistance

Food is available to animal owners who need assistance feeding their animals through our Safe At Home Program. (864) 467-5678.

Humane Education for Youths

GCAC offers classroom presentations, summer camps and more. (864) 467-3986;
petpr@greenvillecounty.org.

Lost and Found Pets

GCAC accepts stray, as well as owned animals. (864) 467-3996. lostpet@greenvillecounty.org.

Pet Training

GCAC offers a complimentary dog training class to all adopters. Please contact Julie Caswell (864) 633-6570;
juliecaswell@bellsouth.net;
www.pawsitiveeffect.com.

Spay & Neuter Financial Aid

GCAC offers low-cost spay and neuter programs, and discounts to qualified individuals. (864) 467-7729. petvet@greenvillecounty.org.

Remember to license your new pet with your local county officials.

Ways to Help

To learn more about opportunities to help animals, call (864) 467-3950 or visit us online www.greenvillepets.org.

Charitable Gift Annuities

Lifetime income, plus a tax deduction

Corporate Partnerships

Sponsor a GCAC event or organize a benefit.

Estate Gifts

Include GCAC in your will, trust or with a beneficiary designation.

Monetary Donations

GCAC relies on private donations.

Sponsorships

Sponsorships are available for a multitude of needs at GCAC. Sponsorships may be put toward animal adoption fees, medical needs, and other areas.

Tribute Gifts

Tribute gifts can be made in memory of, or in honor of, a pet or loved one. A card will be sent to your loved one.

Volunteer

GCAC volunteer programs are available for teens, adults, groups and companies. Contact Brent Mead, (864) 467-3987; petvolunteer@greenvillecounty.org.



APPENDIX I



Greenville County Animal Care Adoption Contract

Date: _____

Animal Name: _____ Animal ID number: _____

Name: _____
First Middle Last

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Phone: _____
Home Cell/Work

Email: _____

Driver's License #/ID: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Please read and initial beside each number and then sign at the bottom of the agreement.

_____ 1. The pet you have adopted from Greenville County Animal Care may have been recently spayed or neutered and/or need booster vaccinations, fecal tests and de-worming medications, and other general medical care. **We recommend that you make an appointment with your regular veterinarian or at the Greenville County Animal Care Clinic within 2 weeks of adopting a pet.** For appointments, call the Clinic at 864-467-3988.

_____ 2. I understand that animals can from time to time carry and transmit diseases; some of which affect people, including bacteria, viruses, parasites, and fungal diseases and that the disease may be undetectable in what appears to be a healthy animal at the time of adoption. *****I understand that I will be financially responsible for all additional medical care incurred after I leave the animal shelter with my new pet including vaccines, medications, routine exams and follow-up care.** I agree to hold harmless the County of Greenville for any and all medical complications resulting in the adoption of my pet. ***

_____ 3. I understand that I am receiving this animal without any warranties, guarantees or representations about its conditions, behavior or prior ownership. I agree to hold harmless the County of Greenville for any and all complications resulting in the adoption of my pet, to include loss of life, limb or property damages, disputes or claims. Greenville County Animal Care is not the agent or provider of this service and will be held harmless for any claims arising out of this promotional coverage.

_____ 4. I agree to return my pet to Greenville County Animal Care if the animal becomes ill and I cannot care for it properly, or if for any reason it does not prove as a satisfactory pet. If I decide to give up the animal, I understand that depending on the circumstances of the return, it may be placed back for adoption, sent to an animal rescue group, or humanely euthanized. **I understand that I can exchange my returned pet for another within 30 days of the adoption date, but that I will not be refunded adoption fees.** Only one exchange will be allowed within 30 days of the original adoption date, please.

Greenville County Animal Care Adoption Contract, page 2

_____ 5. I agree to obey the laws and ordinances enforced in the municipality in which I reside regarding animal licensing and animal control. Additionally, the animal will not be kept chained and/or inhumanely confined outside. The pet that I am adopting today will be kept as a personal pet and will not be used for medical or any other experimental purposes. I will humanely care for and provide proper food and shelter for the animal, including annual veterinary examinations, vaccines, exercise and grooming.

_____ 6. All retail sales are final. Items purchased for your newly adopted pet cannot be returned.

_____ 7. I understand Greenville County Animal Care tests canines for heartworm disease and it strongly recommends that all canines be placed on a heartworm preventative immediately at the time of adoption. I understand that Greenville County Animal Care tests felines for feline leukemia and FIV and it highly recommends that all felines be vaccinated for feline leukemia. These recommendations are especially important if the animals are going to be outside pets.

Signature of Adopter: _____ Date: _____

If your pet or the pet you have adopted and/or rescued was spayed or neutered, please read the following post operative care information.

- When your pet first returns home after surgery, please be sure they have an opportunity to go to the bathroom. It has been a long day for them.
- Please do not expose your pet to loud noises or too much activity. Your pet will recover most quickly in a quiet, warm environment.
- You may offer your pet a small amount of food and water. Some animals do not wish to eat directly following surgery. This is normal. Your pet's appetite should return to normal by the next day. If your pet's eating habits have not returned to normal within 24 hours following surgery, please contact us.
- Your pet has dissolvable sutures in their incision (except male cats). These sutures do not require removal. However, as the body begins to absorb the suture material, there may appear a firm, painless swelling beneath the skin around the incision. This is normal. The swelling will diminish in one to two weeks. Please check your pet's incision site at least once per day. If you note any bright red blood or discharge from the incision, please contact the Animal Care Clinic at 467-SPAY.
- If your pet begins to lick its incision site, please place an E-collar on your pet for at least 5 to 7 days. E-collars can be purchased from our Clinic. The collar should extend approximately 2 inches beyond your pet's nose. The collar should be tight enough to prevent your pet from pulling it off but also loose enough to allow normal breathing and swallowing.
- Please be sure to keep your pet's incision site dry for at least 2 weeks following surgery. Since the sutures are dissolvable, it is very important to prevent premature dissolving, which could cause the incision to re-open. Dogs should not be groomed for at least 2 weeks following surgery. Please consider areas where your pets could be exposed to water or excessive moisture and keep a close eye on them. Cats that are allowed to go outside should be kept inside for at least three 3 to 5 days to allow time for the incision to begin to adequately heal.

Adoption Amendment For Parvovirus Exposure

I acknowledge that I am adopting an animal that has been designated as being potentially exposed to parvovirus. I have decided to continue with adopting, even though I understand the risks involved including:

- Transmission of the disease to my pets and any other pets this animal comes in contact with.
- The extensive cost of treatment and the high mortality rate that may result should my pet(s) contract the disease. Greenville County Animal Care Services shall have no liability and is held harmless should any animal become ill from this pet. I further agree to pay any veterinary expenses incurred for my pet(s).
- Contamination, on a long-term basis, of my residence and any other location the animal has been in contact with. This will preclude me from adopting another juvenile animal for at least six months if this pet should test positive for the virus depending on my ability to disinfect the area the pet was in.

I further agree to seek immediate medical attention should this pet show any symptoms of parvovirus including: loss of appetite, diarrhea, vomiting, and lethargy. I understand it is critical to seek treatment as there is a high mortality rate with this disease and it can cause great suffering for the pet.

Signature

Date

(GCAC Clinic # 864-467-3988 to make appointment or contact you personal vet)

APPENDIX II

Greenville County Animal Care

Helping People Help Animals



ANIMAL HEALTH DISCLOSURE for Animal ID # _____

By signing below, I understand and agree that the pet I am adopting, rescuing, and/or fostering;

Appears healthy and is not showing clinical signs of illness or injury at the time of release.

Has been diagnosed with the following condition, illness and/or injury at the time of release:

****ANIMALS IN YOUR HOME SHOULD BE UPDATED ON VACCINATIONS PRIOR TO ADOPTING A NEW PET!****

My signature below indicates that I am taking ownership and/or custody of said animal, or I am an official representative of an organization or group approved to make decisions and to sign this disclosure statement. I understand that I am accountable for said animal and agree to provide the animal with humane care and any medical care and treatment needed, including any latent illnesses that the animal may be harboring but has not shown clinical signs to date. If I am fostering said animal for Greenville County Animal Care, I also understand that any medical conditions that present after I take the pet(s) home need to be immediately brought to the attention of the foster supervisor.

Signature

Date

Print Name

Additional Information on Common Animal Illnesses:

- Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease Complex (aka "Canine infectious respiratory disease") - DOGS
 - Viral pathogens associated with upper respiratory disease in dogs include: Parainfluenza, Adenovirus, Respiratory Coronavirus, Herpesvirus, Influenza, or Distemper. These viruses may cause secondary bacterial pathogens to invade, including *Bordetella bronchiseptica*, *Mycoplasma spp.*, and *Streptococcus zooepidemicus*. Symptoms almost always include coughing or nasal discharge. Isolating newly adopted/rescued dogs from other dogs for a period of 14 days substantially reduces risk of cross-infection.

Heartworm Disease - DOGS

- A serious and potentially fatal condition caused by parasitic worms living in the arteries of the lung and heart of dogs, a test is performed on all dogs available for adoption or rescue. If the animal being released today is Heartworm positive, please be sure to follow up immediately with your veterinarian for treatment options. If the dog you adopt/rescue is negative, it is highly recommended that you immediately start preventative care by purchasing a monthly heartworm preventative medication.

Internal Parasites (aka "Worms") – DOGS & CATS

- Internal parasites in dogs and cats entering animal shelter is very common and can cause illness, diarrhea, anemia, and even death if not diagnosed and treated. Some parasites are zoonotic, that is, they can also cause disease in humans. The most common seen are: Hookworms, Roundworms, Whipworms, Tapeworms, Coccidia, and Giardia. Because there are so many types of worms to potentially treat, we recommend ALWAYS taking a fecal sample of your adopted/rescue pet to a veterinarian for complete diagnosis and treatment.

Parvovirus – DOGS

- Puppies are most susceptible to this disease, but any dog can become infected. Testing for Parvo is only done on symptomatic or directly exposed/high risk dogs and because shedding of the virus occurs a few days before clinical signs appear, Parvo can be passed to other animals unknowingly. Look for a combination of these symptoms: lethargy, bloody diarrhea, vomiting, weakness, and fever. Newly adopted pets (and their feces) should be kept away from other dogs for a period of 14 days to observe and ensure they are not incubating a virus.

Mange – DOGS & CATS

- Mange is caused by mites and causes hair loss and mild to intense skin irritation. There are two types of mange: Sarcoptic and Demodex. Sarcoptic mange is zoonotic, that is, it can also be transmitted to other animals and humans. Demodex is not known to cross-infest between dogs and cats, nor is it transmitted to humans. Diagnosis of Sarcoptic or Demodex mange is determined by microscopic examination of skin scrapes from affected areas.

Ringworm – DOGS & CATS

- Ringworm is the common name for the skin infection caused by a group of fungi. In animals, ringworm frequently looks like a dry, scaly patch. Ringworm is zoonotic, that is, it can also be transmitted to other animals and humans. Some animals are carriers who never show signs of skin irritation themselves but can infect others readily. Ringworm can be diagnosed in one of three ways: Wood's lamp, microscopic examination (trichogram), and fungal culture. Unfortunately, more than 50% of Wood's lamp and trichograms will result in false negatives so fungal culture is the only definitive way to diagnose ringworm. This technique requires at least 10 days to confirm fungal infection. Treatment is long term (at least 1-2 months) and ideally includes both topical and oral medications.



APPENDIX III

ANIMAL CARE CLINIC

"Greenville County's low-cost spay/neuter and wellness center"

328 Furman Hall Rd., Greenville, SC 29609

(864) 467-SPAY (7729)

Post Operative Instructions for Pet Owners:

Thank you for being a responsible pet owner! By having your pet spayed/neutered, you have increased your pet's chances for a longer, healthier life. In addition, you have also helped to address the pet overpopulation problem. Post-operative care is simple but important in helping your pet with recovery.

- Your pet may be drowsy or nauseous after surgery today.
- Please do not expose your pet to loud noises or too much activity. Your pet will recover most quickly in a quiet, warm environment.
- You may offer your pet a small amount of food and water. Some animals do not wish to eat directly following surgery. This is normal. Your pet's appetite should return to normal by the next day. If your pet's eating habits have not returned to normal within 24 hours following surgery, please contact us.

Male/Female Dogs and Female Cats

- Your pet has dissolvable sutures in their incision. These sutures do not require removal. However, as the body begins to absorb the suture material, there may appear a firm, painless swelling beneath the skin around the incision. This is normal! The swelling will diminish in one to two weeks. Please check your pet's incision site at least once per day. If you note any bright red blood or discharge from the incision, please contact us immediately.
- If your pet begins to lick its incision site, please place an E-collar on your pet for at least 5 to 7 days. E-collars can be purchased from our clinic. The collar should be tight enough to prevent your pet from pulling it off but also loose enough to allow normal breathing and swallowing.
- Please be sure to keep your pet's incision site dry for at least 10 days following surgery. Cats that are allowed to go outside should be kept inside for at least three 3 to 5 days to allow time for the incision to begin to adequately heal. Please do not give your pet a bath or allow them to swim for 10 days.

ALL PETS SHOULD BE CLOSELY MONITORED THE FIRST

24 HOURS FOLLOWING SURGERY

If you need assistance, please contact us at (864) 467-SPAY (7729).



Greenville County Animal Care

Helping People Help Animals

Pain Management for Your Pet

There are several measures we take to ensure your pet is pain free after having surgery. These include:



1. A combination of drugs is given to make the pet sleepy and calm before actually going under anesthesia. Part of this pre-medication is an analgesic (pain killer) that lasts for at least 24 hours.
2. Male dogs and cats get a testicular block once they are under anesthesia but before surgery. This numbs the testicle and spermatic cord, offers pain relief, and allows the surgeons to use less inhaled anesthesia, which is safer for the pet.
3. Female dogs and cats get a splash block during surgery. This numbs the area in which the incision was made.
4. All pets over 4 months old receive an injection of meloxicam immediately after surgery. This is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory, also known as NSAID. This lasts up to 48 hours. **Do not give any other drugs (such as aspirin) without consulting a veterinarian.** Giving 2 or more different kinds of NSAIDS can have severe side effects.

If you feel your pet is painful please call us at 864-467-7729 and we will discuss how your pet is feeling over the phone and together decide if your pet needs more pain medication and/or needs to be reexamined by our veterinarian(s).

APPENDIX V Clinic Services

SPAY/NEUTER CLINIC

By Appointment Only (864) 467-7729

|  DOG Neuter (Male) / Spay (Female) |  CAT Neuter (Male) / Spay (Female) |
|---|--|
| Neuter \$59* | Neuter \$29 |
| Spay Under 40 pounds: \$69 | Spay \$49 |
| Spay Over 40 pounds: \$79* | Kitten Neuter (under 4 months) \$25 |
| Puppy Neuter (under 6 months) \$45 | Kitten Spay (under 4 months) \$45 |
| Puppy Spay (under 6 months) \$55 | Feral \$25 |
| * Extra Charge \$8 per 10 lbs over 100 lbs. | |

- ❖ A **Rabies vaccine** is required for surgery. If you have proof of Rabies vaccine, please bring it on the day of surgery. If not, we will administer a vaccine for an additional \$10 fee.
- ❖ **Feral Cat:** A feral cat is a descendant of a domesticated cat that has returned to the wild. It is distinguished from a **Stray Cat**, which is a cat that has been lost or abandoned, while feral cats are born in the wild. You can receive the **Feral Cat** pricing **ONLY** if the cat is brought in a trap and is wild (e.g. unmanageable/not able to be handled).
- ❖ **Surgery drop-off** is between 8:00 am – 9:00 am. **Pick-up** is between 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

VACCINE CLINIC Tuesday 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

We offer a walk-in low-cost vaccine clinic on Tuesday nights 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm. No appointment is needed and there are no Exam Fees. Just pay for vaccines/services rendered. Due to high client volume, please be prepared for a 20 – 30 minute wait.

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------|------|
| ✓ 1 year Rabies vaccine | \$10 | ✓ Heartworm Test (dogs) | \$18 |
| ✓ Distemper/Parvo (dogs) | \$10 | ✓ Leukemia/FIV/HW Test (cats) | \$24 |
| ✓ Feline Distemper (cats) | \$10 | ✓ Nail Trim | \$10 |
| ✓ De-Worming | \$10 | ✓ Ear Cleaning | \$10 |
| ✓ Tri-Heart Heartworm Prevention | varies | ✓ Microchip, Tag, Registration | \$10 |

WELLNESS CLINIC by Appointment Only 467-3988

The Animal Care Clinic is committed to providing quality care to pets. We are not a free clinic nor do we offer payment plans; however, we offer a variety of low cost treatment plans and we accept cash, check, Visa, MasterCard, and Discover. Please note, wellness visits are by appointment only.

Who can utilize clinic services? You are welcome to bring the pet you've recently adopted from Greenville County Animal Care within the first thirty (30) days after adopting, or if you meet income requirements. Please see the back of this sheet for additional information.

For recent pet adopters: Each pet is medically assessed when it is brought to Greenville County Animal Care and its health monitored while at the shelter. However, a pet may be incubating a health ailment at the time of admission or adoption without showing any clinical signs of the ailment (e.g. upper respiratory infection or canine infectious respiratory disease). As such, the Animal Care Clinic does not provide free medical care for newly adopted pets.

Please note the Wellness Clinic is not a free clinic!

Payment is due when services are rendered.

Financial Qualifications

Individuals and families that meet these criteria qualify to use our low-cost Wellness Clinic. Please be prepared to provide written proof of benefits from one of the following sources:

- SSI Card
- Medicare/Medicaid
- Social Security
- Food Stamps/EBT Card
- Proof of low income (according to federal poverty guidelines below) from most recent income tax statement or pay slip.
- Third party verification of low income or no income:
 - Department of Human Services
 - Office of Senior Affairs
 - Proof of Unemployment

2012 Health & Human Services Poverty Guidelines

| Size of family unit | Annual | Monthly | Weekly |
|---------------------|----------|---------|--------|
| 1 | \$11,170 | \$931 | \$215 |
| 2 | \$15,130 | \$1,261 | \$291 |
| 3 | \$19,090 | \$1,591 | \$367 |
| 4 | \$23,050 | \$1,921 | \$443 |
| 5 | \$27,010 | \$2,251 | \$519 |
| 6 | \$30,970 | \$2,581 | \$596 |
| 7 | \$34,930 | \$2,911 | \$672 |
| 8 | \$38,890 | \$3,241 | \$747 |

For family units with more than 8 members, add \$3,960 for each additional member.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/12fedreg.pdf>

