Our Adoption Process and Why We Do It This Way

Please take a few moments to read the following explanations of our adoption policies and the steps that make up the process. You may be surprised to find that adopting an animal is a more involved process than you expected, or that it means you can’t have immediate access to an animal you are interested in. Therefore, it’s important to understand two things:

1) The process is the same for everyone;
2) it IS NOT our intent to frustrate you, rather everything we do is for the best possible chance of finding a permanent home.

The following information is requested so that our staff can assist you in the selection of a life time companion. The animal’s welfare is our foremost concern. The animals available for adoption come here from a variety of sources. We cannot guarantee an animal’s temperament. A kennel technician and/or veterinarian examine all animals upon entry. Their health is routinely monitored while at the shelter but there is always a chance that an animal is incubating a disease without showing any clinical signs. _____(PLEASE INITIAL)

Be aware that a yearly vet exam (including heartworm prevention) can cost a minimum of $200 a year for your pet. Puppies and kittens need vaccines and worming that can cost up to $75 a month for the first four months in your care. _____ (PLEASE INITIAL)

We consider the adoption of any pet to be a lifelong commitment of time, affection, money, patience and responsibility.

Our adoption fee includes spaying and neutering, first vaccinations, worming, microchip and heartworm testing (as applicable) ALL DOGS WITH A CURRENT VACCINATION WILL BE REQUIRED BY LAW TO HAVE A DOG LICENSE through their county of residence. In Kent County this is done through Levy Court.

IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED AS AN ADOPTER TODAY, YOU MUST:

- Be at least 18 years of age;
- Have a state-issued photo ID showing your current address;
- Have the knowledge and consent of your landlord or homeowner;
- Have the knowledge and consent of all adults living in the household;
- Understand that we reserve the right to verify any information on this application, including a property check;
- Be able and willing to spend the time and money necessary to provide medical treatment and and proper care for a pet;
- Understand that some breeds may require research and experience;
- Be in compliance with all state, county and municipal ordinances.

The First State Animal Center & SPCA reserves the right to refuse adoption to anyone. No animal will be adopted to persons having a history of losing, giving away or selling animals, or having animals injured or killed while in their care. No animal will be adopted to prospective owners who mislead or to provide accurate information on the adoption application.
PLEASE NOTE: ANIMAL HOLDS: the hold fee is refundable if you are holding for another animal or family member to “meet and greet” or if the animal on hold is not a good fit for your family. The hold fee is NONREFUNDABLE if you change your mind or do not return during hold period. All animal holds are not guaranteed for situations beyond our control.

Name: ____________________________________________________________

Address: ________________________________________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: __________ Zip: __________

Home Phone: __________________ WorkPhone: __________________ Age: _____

Email Address: ________________________________________________________________

1. Name of pet you are applying for: ___________________________________________

2. Description of pet you are applying for (or looking for): __________________________

3. Do you want this pet for: COMPANION  PROTECTION  GIFT
OTHER__________________________

4. This pet will be left alone without human companionship for about ________ hours per day, ___________ days per week.

5. Where will your pet be kept during the day? (circle all that apply)
INDOORS  OUTDOORS  DOG PEN  CRATE  BASEMENT  GARAGE
FENCED YARD  OTHER__________________________

During the night? INDOORS  OUTDOORS  DOG PEN  CRATE  BASEMENT
GARAGE  OTHER__________________________

6. If adopting a cat, do you plan to let it outdoors? YES  NO
If yes, how often? _________________________

7. If adopting a pet other than a dog or cat, please describe where the pet will be kept:
______________________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________________

8. Where do you live? HOUSE  APARTMENT  TOWNHOUSE  OTHER______
_________ RENT  _______ OWN  ________WITH MY PARENTS

9. If you Rent, does your landlord allow pets? YES  NO  DON’T KNOW
Landlord’s name: ___________________________ Phone: ____________________

10. Please provide the following information about your household:
   Number of adults: _______ Ages: _______________
   Number of children: _______ Ages: _______________

11. Is anyone in your family allergic to animals? ________ CATS  DOGS

12. What will you do with your pets if you move in the future? ________________

13. If active military, what will happen to your pet if you are deployed? ________

14. Would you be willing to allow us to visit your home if necessary?  YES  NO

15. Have you ever given a pet up? ________ Why? ____________________________

16. What type(s) of pets do you own or have owned in the last 10 years?

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<th>Type/Breed</th>
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<th>Age</th>
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16. Who is (was) your veterinarian?
   Name: ____________________________________________________________
   Address: ________________________________________________________
   Phone: _________________________________________________________

17. Are you familiar with heartworm disease?  YES  NO

18. It may take your new pet two or more weeks to adjust to its new home, especially if other pets are involved. Are you prepared to allow this much time?  YES  NO
19. How do you plan to house train your dog? ______________________________

20. Animals at FSAC-SPCA are vaccinated and treated in the shelter and are tested for common conditions such as heartworm, Lyme etc., however the stress of changing environments will frequently cause them to break with symptoms not shown while in the shelter. Once adopted, vet care, medication and routine health care will become the responsibility of the adopter. Are you financially prepared to take responsibility for the expenses associated with pet ownership? What will you do if your pet becomes ill and requires vet care?

Our adoption fee includes spay/neuter, vaccinations, worming, microchip, and heartworm and/or FeLV/FIV test (as applicable). All dogs with a current rabies vaccination will be required to have a Delaware dog license; this is an additional charge and is available ONLY through Kent County Levy Court.

By signing below, I certify that the information I have given is true and that I recognize that any misrepresentation of the facts may result in my losing the privilege of adopting a pet from The First State Animal Center & SPCA. I authorize investigation of all statements on this application.

Signature______________________________________Date_________________________________