Adoption Guidelines

Shipping:
All shipping costs and liability will be the responsibility of the adoptee, and the Turtle Conservancy is not to be held liable for any injury or health issues sustained during transportation to the adoptee. The Turtle Conservancy will ship under all state, federal, IATA and AZA regulations and guidelines to ensure a safe and healthy arrival.

Proof of Residency and Permits:
Proof of residency is required for adoptions in California for all species listed under the Endangered Species Act and protected under the Lacey Act (i.e. Radiated Tortoises, Indian Spotted Pond Turtles). Proof of residency can be established via a photo or scanned copy of a valid California driver’s license and a copy of official mail with your current address (i.e. utility bill). All adoptions out of state for ESA listed animals will require a photo or scanned copy of a valid Captive Bred Wildlife permit.

Right of First Refusal:
Should the adopter no longer be able to care for the animal(s) being adopted, the adopter must first offer the animal(s) back to the Turtle Conservancy at no cost, before placing them with another adopter or on the open market. The Turtle Conservancy will be held responsible for all return shipping arrangements and expenses. This is to ensure the animals will be properly cared for and continue to be kept for conservation purposes. The Turtle Conservancy may choose to waive their ownership in special cases at the time of adoption.

Annual Status Report:
We require that all adoptions be followed up with annual reports of the following measures
1. Current condition (Alive/Deceased)
2. Current photo
3. Size (Straight carapace length)
4. Gender (If not known at time of adoption)
5. Reproductive status
6. Major health issues
This will help aid our research, breeding protocols, and husbandry. A separate report should be made for each individual animal. Reports may be submitted through email at info@turtleconservancy.org and should be delivered in January of each year, regardless of time of adoption.