

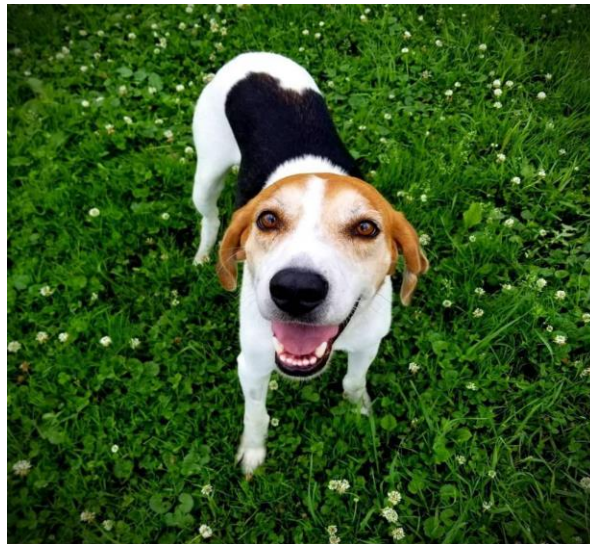


Animal Care Sanctuary

353 Sanctuary Hill Lane

East Smithfield, PA 18817

570-596-2200



Foster Program Adult Dog Manual

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Animal Care Sanctuary Thanks You!

Thank you for opening your home and your heart to animals in need. Whether you foster a puppy(s) who needs a safe place to grow, a mama in need of a relaxing and calm place to raise her pups, or an adult dog who needs a little extra TLC, you make it possible for us to provide the very best care for all our residents at Animal Care Sanctuary (ACS). Your involvement also allows us to have the space to rescue more dogs in need of a placement. Fostering can be rewarding, messy, adorable, stinky, and sometimes a heartbreaking job. We certainly could not provide the level of care we do without valuable foster homes like yours and we are here to support you through all of it.

Greetings, Foster Parents!

Thank you for participating in the Animal Care Sanctuary (ACS) Foster Care Program. We appreciate your willingness to open your heart and home to homeless animals. Your dedication allows our organization to rescue animals we would otherwise have to turn away due to limited space in our shelter.

The guiding mission of the Foster Care Program is to give individualized care where needed, to help socialize and build confidence in dogs and puppies, and to help prepare animals for adoption.

Specific goals of the program include:

- Providing a safe, healthy, nurturing, environment for dogs.
- Socializing shy or timid dogs and puppies.
- Giving our long-term or high stress residents time away from the shelter and in a home setting.
- Allowing dogs/puppies to recover from injury, trauma, or birth in a relaxing, uplifting environment.

Overview of Key Responsibilities and Policies: To continue establishing a successful foster program, we ask that you follow our general policy guidelines in addition to the contractual expectations throughout the entire foster term. Please keep the following in mind while ensuring the responsibility of each foster home is to provide a safe interim placement for dogs to grow and explore their new environment:

1. Dogs must always wear a martingale collar provided by ACS or yourself at your own expense. When outside, the dog must always be kept on a leash, when not in a secure & fenced location. Additionally, even in a secure and fenced location, and anytime the dog is outside, we ask that they are supervised. This is for the safety of the foster dog(s) and other animals and people they may encounter.
2. For the safety of our dogs and others, please do not introduce the dog to any other dogs without prior approval. Before bringing a foster into your home, if you have any resident animals, we suggest you first talk with your vet to ensure your dog(s) is strong, healthy, and up to date on their vaccines. By doing this, you will decrease the chances of your animals and the foster animal(s) potentially coming down with an illness or inducing unnecessary stress. Unfortunately, we cannot provide medical care for your personal pet because of our foster dog and if your vet recommends against you bringing a foster into your home, we strongly suggest adhering to those suggestions.

3. Only take the dogs to approved locations – if there are restrictions on where your dog can go, we will let you know before the dog goes into your home. Regardless, please do not take the dog out of town unless given prior approval from a member of the Foster Team. If you need to leave town unexpectedly during your foster term, please contact the Adoptions Counselor at 570-596-2200 ext. 202 or email adoptions@animalcaresanctuary.org/adoption counselor's direct email. We can plan for the dog to either come back to ACS or enter a different foster home while you are away.
4. Administer heartworm, flea/tick preventatives, and any treatments the dog may need during their foster term with you. Please also bring the dog back for exams, vaccines, and treatments as needed. Documentation of administered preventatives & treatments can be submitted through your foster portal in ShelterLuv and any appointments will be communicated with you as soon as they are scheduled.

ShelterLuv Foster Portal (Fosterluv): You're an official Foster Parent at Animal Care Sanctuary! We've added an attribute to your account on the ShelterLuv database that says, "Willing Foster". You should have received an email from yourfriends@shelterluv.com with the Subject, "Please Set Your Animal Care Sanctuary Foster Profile".

Please click on the "Click Here" and follow the prompts:

<https://www.shelterluv.com/publicfosterprofile/ACSP/>

Save the above link for easy access either on your phone or computer. In Fosterluv you can: Provide daily updates, write biographies, complete the animal's scheduled treatments/preventatives, view medical records, upload photos, and update your contact information, plus more!

We would like to receive updates weekly if possible but understand if it isn't. No worries, we can also reach out to you directly as well. Please see below for more information on where you can share photos and videos of your foster animal!

Supplies and Expenses: ACS will provide you with food, toys, crates, and any other supplies you may need to successfully foster. However, we greatly appreciate any help you can provide in supplying items for your foster dog. Below are the essential supplies you will need during your foster term:

- Stainless steel or ceramic bowls. One for food, and at least one for water. All animals should have their very own food bowl. Water bowls can be shared.
- Hill's Science Diet Adult Dry dog food - it is best to keep your foster dog(s) on the same food that we feed at the shelter to not cause digestive upset. In addition, if the dog is on a special diet, they must remain on that special diet throughout their stay with you and should be restricted from eating residents' food.
- Martingale collar with ID tag and a leash.
- Waste bags.
- A bed or blankets.
- A baby gate if you want to keep certain areas of your house off limits.
- A crate large enough for the dog to be able to stand up and turn around in.
- Treats & toys.

- Adopt me gear.

ACS covers all medical care expenses for foster dogs if performed at ACS on-site veterinary clinic, or at other veterinary clinics approved in advance with records of the visit(s) being submitted to the ACS vet team and staff.

If your foster animal needs to go to the vet, please call our clinic at 570-596-2270 or email your Adoption Counselor at 570-596-2200 ext. 202 or adoptions@animalcaresanctuary.org/direct email. Please note, seeking veterinary care for your foster dog at a clinic other than ACS is not permitted without explicit ACS staff approval.

Items to keep track of

- Food
- Food/water bowls
- Toys
- Treats

Expenses you incur during your term as foster parent, that are not pre-approved by ACS whether for supplies or medical care, cannot be reimbursed. These expenses, however, may be considered a tax-deductible donation. Keep all receipts to track using the in-kind donation form provided by ACS.

Always consult a tax professional to determine whether your foster expenses are tax-deductible.

Dog Proofing Your Home: Dog-proof your house by looking for and removing hazardous and valuable items that the dog could chew on. Clearing counter tops, secure trash cans, etc.... Even if the dog has previously lived in a home, we don't know how they will respond to a new home like yours. Setup your house for the dog's arrival by determining where the dog's crate, bed, and bowls will be kept. Decide where food, treats, and supplies will be stored. Determine the house "rules" for the dog and make sure all family members know what they are. Decide what the dog's schedule will be for walks, play, training, feeding, and potty time and who will be responsible.

Some specific examples of dog-proofing your home:

- Keep toilet lids closed.
- Cover trash cans and place them inside a closet or space the dog can't get to.
- Store people and pet food in a place out of the dog's reach.
- Keep medications and self-care products in a secure location not accessible by the dog.
- Make sure any small pets like hamsters, fish, etc. are out of reach and secure in their enclosures.
- Secure cords for cellphones and other electronics, knickknacks, house plants, and other valuables from your foster dog.

Bringing Your Foster Dog Home: According to your application and the conversations we have with you prior to bringing your foster dog home we will work together to select a foster dog that meets your lifestyle and requirements most. You can make an appointment to come and meet some of the potential dogs we have in mind. Please remember that there are some dogs that are in more of a need of foster than others, and we will most likely give you a selection of those dogs. However, essentially, we are

open to all dogs going into foster homes! If you have a specific dog in mind, we can certainly discuss them as an option.

Most of our animals are being fed a regular Hill's Science Diet kibble. We start dogs on adult food when they turn 6 months old and feed them twice a day. This will be provided for your foster dog. If the dog requires a special diet, that diet will also be provided for them. The daily feeding amount varies with the weight and activity levels of each dog. When you pick your dog(s) up, we will give the specifics on what and how much to feed.

You must provide a clean and safe environment for your foster dog(s). ACS recommends having a sturdy dog crate that can be easily sanitized, easy to wash bedding, as well as food and water bowls. Any supplies you may need, ACS will provide for you.

No welcome-home parties please. Limit/discourage visitors for the first few days so that your new foster dog doesn't get overwhelmed.

Introduce your dog to your family members outside, one at a time. Keep it calm and low-key. Let the dog be the one to approach, sniff, and drive the interaction. Offering a treat can help the dog to associate family members with good things (food!). No hugging, kissing, picking up, staring at, or patting on the top of the head during the initial introduction especially – these things can be scary for some dogs.

When taking your new dog on a walk, stay close to home initially. Avoiding lengthy excursions. You need to learn your new dog's behavior before you can predict how they will respond to different stimuli. Establish a walking routine in an area you are familiar with. When not walking the dog, structured play in the yard is also a good form of exercise, bonding, and training. Structured playtime is spending time in the yard with the dog and interacting with them rather than putting them out there to run around on their own. Please refrain from allowing your dog to be off tether whenever outside.

Bring your dog into the house on a leash and give them a tour of the house. Try keeping the mood calm and relaxed. If need be, at first, while establishing expectations, keep the dog on a leash near you or in a closed off area where the dog can't get into trouble. Please call the Adoption Counselor for any undesirable behavior help at 570-596-2200 ext. 202. You can also email them at adoptions@animalcaresanctuary.org/direct email.

Socializing Your Foster Dog: First and foremost, we ask that you treat your foster dog(s) with the same love and care that you give to your own companion animals. Daily attention (at least one full hour a day) from you and other family members or friends makes them more people-oriented, and more adoptable. This includes petting, playing, cuddling, grooming, training, walks, enrichment, etc...

By spending time with your foster dog(s) on a regular basis, you will not only increase their chances of being adopted more quickly, but you will also be able to determine their likes and dislikes – this helps us place them in homes with families that best meet their needs. Once your foster dog has had at least a week or two to acclimate to your home, it might be time for adventures! Such as to the park (please avoid dog parks) or your local pet store (provided the dog is stranger and dog friendly) or joining you for a night out to eat. Don't forget the Adopt Me Gear!

Please monitor your foster dog(s) for behavioral concerns, such as inappropriate urination or separation anxiety. If problems arise, contact your Adoption Counselor to discuss training and behavior strategies. ACS is not responsible for damage that might occur to yourself, others in your household, or your personal property because of canine behavior problems while in foster care. We can, however, offer support and resources to work through the issues and are happy to do so!

Dog to Dog Introductions: It is recommended to have your resident dog(s) meet the potential foster dog(s) at ACS prior to you taking the foster dog home.

Even if your dog met our dog at ACS but especially if they didn't, have the initial meeting outside (one dog at a time if you have several) in a food-free, toy-free zone. Choose a neutral setting for the meeting. If you bring a new dog into your home before they have been introduced to your current dog(s) there could be territorial behavior that develops into aggression. Allow the interaction between the dogs to progress at its own pace. Even if they ignore each other at first this is better than forcing them into a situation that causes them to become defensive or aggressive. Don't rush it and keep the leashes loose with no tension. Don't leave them alone together until you are sure it is safe to do so.

Walks are a great way to introduce dogs. Each dog should have their own handler; recruit family members or a friend to help. Plan out a route along your street where there is enough room to walk the dogs parallel to each other without letting them get face to face. Walk together with the dogs and allow them to have their space and explore the environment as they please. Once the dogs are comfortable walking parallel with each other, have one dog lead the walk and the second dog walk behind, sniffing their hind end. After a few minutes, if things are going smoothly, then switch the dogs around and repeat. At this point, it should be easier to gauge how the dogs are feeling around each other. If everyone is comfortable, handlers and dogs, then you can allow the dogs to interact a little more freely without forward movement.

Make sure to keep the leash slack but have a firm grip so you can hold onto the dog should something go wrong.

Don't allow the leashes to get tangled up; if the dogs are circling, walk in a circle with them always staying directly behind the dog you're handling and staying in motion with the other handler directly across from each other. They move left, you move left. Pay close attention to each dog's body language and make sure all parties involved are relaxed and comfortable. If one or both dogs get stiff or seem uncomfortable, simply continue the walk as you were and go back to walking parallel. Movement usually reduces tension. You can try interactions again when dogs are calm but if tensions continue to escalate, stop interactions, and try again tomorrow. Please refer to the doggy body language chart that was sent home with you if you would like help on reading the dogs body language.

It's not a bad idea to keep initial interactions brief. Allow them to touch their noses, sniff each other a bit, then separate them. This fragmentation of initial contact can help to prevent escalations of tension and aggression.

Keep your own voice and attitude as well as those of the other handler's positive and happy. This will help to keep everyone in the situation, humans, and dogs alike, calm, and productive. Have treats handy and use them as rewards for good behavior during the interaction breaks. Do not offer them while the dogs are interacting.

Remember to always observe the body language of all dogs involved. Inviting, happy, and loose body language is a sign that things are going well. Guarded, defensive, and stiff body language can mean trouble. If negative body language is observed, separate the dogs, and return to distracting them with other activities. Wait a little while and then try again but keep the interaction very brief. The main goal here is to prevent escalation of tensions between the dogs. Continue with brief interactions until the initial excitement has worn off and greeting behaviors have dissipated. When everyone is behaving in a calm and positive manner it is time to take the dogs inside. Upon initially entering the house, keep the leashes attached to the dogs to drag on the ground. This way, if a dispute does break out, you can separate the dogs safely.

Once both dogs are comfortable in each other's presence inside of the house, the leashes can come off. Always monitor dogs when toys and food are around either of them. Feeding in separate areas of the house is never a bad idea and always feeding at the same time the other dog is getting their meal(s).

Dog to Cat Introductions: If you have a resident cat(s), keep the cat secure until you know how the dog will react to them. Use doors, gates, and leashes to prevent contact initially. Don't give the dog the opportunity to chase the cat. You can either keep the cats in a secure room equipped with food, water, litterbox, and toys. Or keep your foster dog confined to their own space with food and water.

Introductions should be taken slowly and carefully. Even if your foster dog has lived with other cats previously it is certainly no guarantee that the dog will react calmly and positively to your cat at home. During a one-to-two-week period, let the dog and cat smell each other through the door, feed them at the same time on opposite sides of the door, swap their items like blankets or toys for the other to smell, but do not allow them to interact with one another. Offering treats during these initial scent swaps will provide positive association.

Before your dog meets your cat through a barrier, it's a good idea to take them on a walk, exercise their brain with a training session, puzzle toy, or sniffing for treats in the grass. Play with the cat before they meet the dog as well. This will help expend any energy before they see each other.

With the dog on a leash and preferably sitting, have the cat in their crate and walk your dog casually near the crate. If the crate can be elevated, that's best. Have treats ready for positive reinforcement and if the dog is displaying undesirable behaviors such as pawing, barking, or whining, at the crate, prey like behaviors, or especially aggression, walk the dog away from the crate treating them as they do, then retry tomorrow. Keep swapping items throughout the day! You'll know it's safe to introduce the dog to the cat without being in their crate, when your dog is able to look away from your cat and respond to you. Your dog should be able to watch your cat casually without fixating on them and vice versa.

When you're ready to introduce the cat and dog without a barrier, have your dog on a leash and make sure your cat has the option to hide or climb if they want to. These introductions need to be done slowly and they should always be supervised. Keep checking in with your dog and get their attention. There shouldn't be any intense focus from with the dog or cat. Keep the visits short at first and gradually make them longer. Reward both the cat and dog for calm behavior.

Dog to Child Introductions: It is highly recommended that all children living in the foster home meet the foster dog at ACS prior to the dog leaving for foster. This may be some of our dogs first time meeting children and we can never guarantee the dog's behaviors. We understand having a new dog is super exciting and the children may want to snuggle up right away. Make sure the children do not climb on,

stand on, hang on, crowd, or get in the face of the foster dog. The kids should understand the foster dog is different than any resident dogs you may have or have had, and this transition period can be stressful for them. While they acclimate to a new environment the goal is to keep stress at a minimum.

Since we rarely know our dog's history or tolerance/triggers to different stressors, please teach any children interacting with the dog how to act responsibly and respectfully around your foster dog. Always put safety first, and make sure your child is giving the foster dog the space they require.

Some specific examples of when to leave your foster dog alone – especially for children:

- Never interrupt your foster dog when they are eating, chewing, or sleeping.
- Don't ever take away a toy or valuable possession from the foster dog.
- Never tease the dog, pull, or pinch their tail, ears, or fur.
- Do not run near, at, or towards the foster dog.
- Try to keep children's toys in a room where the dog can't get to them. Dogs cannot differentiate between what is their toy and what is the children's toy.

Crate Training: Your dog's crate may be one of their favorite places to hang out . . . if you introduce it properly. Teaching your dog to love the crate is easy to do if you include lots of positive reinforcement in your training.

You can use a Kong to help you. Show your foster dog the Kong and let them sniff and lick it so they know what it is. Then place it in the crate and shut the door, keeping your dog outside of the crate so they can see the toy. When your dog is trying hard to get the toy in the crate, open the door and let them in. The Kong is just an example. Anything of high value to your dog will be good to use.

Another way to start introducing a dog to the crate is by feeding their daily meals in the crate. At mealtime, put the dog's bowl of food into the back of the crate so they must go into the crate to get the food. If they're afraid and refuse to step in, move the bowl of food closer to the door of the crate. At each meal, try moving the bowl closer and closer to the back of the crate. Take your time and remember, you should never force the dog to do something they don't want to. Leave the crate door open when not training to allow the dog to enter and exit as they please.

Once your dog is comfortable going inside of the crate, you can start closing the door when they start to eat. Leave it closed for about 3 – 5 minutes after they're done eating and if the dog is not crying, whining, or pawing at the door, you can open it back up. If they are, wait until they stop and then immediately open the door. Gradually increase the time by 30 seconds or so with each session. When your dog is comfortable with the door being closed and has no issues going in and out of the crate, you can begin having them enter the crate on cue. You can use the words, "Crate" "Kennel" or another word of your choice. Keep it simple. Say the word, toss a treat in the crate, and close the door behind them. By now your dog should be used to the door being closed behind them. Continue practicing this consistently for a couple minutes every day. Eventually, you will be able to build up the duration to upwards of a couple hours so that your dog is completely comfortable being in the crate.

In addition to feeding in the crate, you can also throw a few treats on the bottom of the crate. Close the door and let them stay in there for just a few minutes at a time or until they have finished the treats. Increase time they spend in the crate with each session.

Do not open the crate when they are whining, crying, or jumping up on the door of the crate. Opening the door when they are acting fussy only reinforces the behavior and teaches them that acting fussy is what they need to do to get you to open the door. Watch them closely while they are eating treats and open the crate when they are close to finishing and are still happy and quiet. Or wait until fussy behavior stops. Once it stops, immediately open the door.

It is your responsibility to teach your foster dog what you want them to do and if they have an unsupervised and free run of the house before they have proper indoor manners, your job will be much harder.

House Training: Many shelter dogs will need some help with their house training since they have been on a restrictive schedule that does not truly allow them to always eliminate outside. It is likely they do not understand that you do not want them to potty in the house. At the very least, be prepared for an adjustment period until your foster dog better understands your schedule.

Take your foster dog outside as many times as you can to better help them remember where the door is to get outside, and to set expectations that pottying happens there. Taking treats with you to offer the dog after they potty is a great idea! Also, use this time to let the dog know it's not playtime – we're here to potty. Use words like, "go potty". Wait until they do and praise/offer a treat. Make it a big deal and celebrate! Most dogs will give cues on when they need to relieve themselves – standing near the door, sniffing the ground excessively and walking in small circles, whining, etc. Look for these cues!

Keeping the dog on a consistent feeding schedule will also help greatly in their potty routine. When you feed your foster dog at first, keep an eye on them. If they do not eat within fifteen minutes, pick up their food and try again later at their next scheduled feeding. Food should not be down throughout the day, as this will surely cause you problems with house training your foster dog.

Do NOT punish the pup for mistakes! This will usually only teach your foster dog they should not eliminate in front of you, and you will begin to find little presents around the house, behind the sofa, etc. The dog does not realize they're making a mistake, and they are looking to you to teach them that eliminating outside is the proper place to do so. Pick up the mess that was done inside and take it outside where you want the dog to eliminate. The dog should start realizing outside is where they should go from the scent of their poo/urine. If you catch the dog going in the house, escort them outside and praise them for finishing outside. Be consistent and patient in your training plan for this short time and you will be amazed at how quickly some dogs catch on!

Times when your dog may need to go out

- First thing in the morning.
- Soon after drinking water/eating.
- When they wake up from a nap.
- After running around and playing.
- If they are acting restless, circling, and sniffing.
- At night before you going to bed.

If Dog Gets Loose

Stop, drop, and lie down! It might sound silly, but dogs find the behavior odd. When you don't chase the dog and instead lay down and lay still, a dog will get curious and will often come back to see if you are okay or to see what you are doing. Have treats if possible!

Stop, drop, and curl into a ball! This is also a curious behavior for a dog. Because you are not moving and your hands are closely wrapped around your head, they see you as less of a threat and will come to check you out. This gives you a chance to gently get a hold of their collar. Have treats if possible!

Run in the opposite direction. Some dogs love a good chase. Instead of you chasing them, let them chase you. Even if the dog is not up for a good chase, he may be curious about your strange behavior and follow along until you can get him into a building or car or someplace where it is easier to corral him.

Sit down with your back or side to the dog and wait. Dogs are thrown off by this different behavior and will become curious and approach. Additionally, you may appear less threatening, and they are more likely to approach. If you have good treats, place a few around you to draw them nearby.

If a car is near, open the car door and ask the dog if they want to go for a ride. It makes sense, especially if the dog has learned to associate the car with good things (e.g., adventures)

Please follow the emergency call numbers below as soon as possible if your foster dog gets lose:

570-596-2200 (ACS main line, available 7:30 – 6:00 Monday – Saturday, 7:30 – 4:00 Sunday)

Email adoptions@animalcaresanctuary.org

Your foster dog is microchipped and registered to Animal Care Sanctuary. The microchip number can be found on the medical records sent home with you during the time of pick up.

Medical Records: When you pick up your foster dog, you should receive copies of their medical records. These records give you an approximate date of birth, weight at time of intake, what medical services have been done, and what things your dog still needs to have done, such as preventative care, vaccines, deworming, etc., and when these things are due. The medical records will also provide your foster dog's microchip number that is registered to Animal Care Sanctuary. Your Adoption Counselor will coordinate appointments with you to make sure this gets done on time. Please document any treatments/preventatives within your foster portal.

Vaccines: DHLPP – Canine Distemper, Adenovirus, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Parvovirus, and Parainfluenza, is given upon intake with a booster 3 weeks later for dogs living in a home. Rabies is given at 12 weeks of age by a vet, and then annually. All dogs 12 weeks and older will already be vaccinated for Rabies before they are in your care. Bordatella helps fight off and reduce the severity of kennel cough. It is given annually for dogs living in a shelter or for dogs that may go to boarding kennels.



We will let you know when your foster dog is due for their next vaccines. Thank you for bringing them in for these.

Vaccine reactions can include, but are not limited to: Limping, Not eating or drinking the normal amounts for 1-2 days, Lethargy, Pain at the sight of injection, Unwillingness to play, Low-grade fever.

If you see these symptoms and they do not improve by 48 hours after the injection, please contact the ACS Clinic at 570-596-2270. If a more serious reaction happens instantaneously and includes severe vomiting, diarrhea, facial swelling, and difficulty breathing, the dog will need to be seen by a vet immediately. Call our clinic or any of the emergency contact numbers below.

570-596-2200 (ACS main line, available 7:30 – 6:00 Monday – Saturday, 7:30 – 4:00 Sunday)
Email adoptions@animalcaresanctuary.org

Treatments – All treatments are provided by ACS

Deworming: Should be given if worms/parasites are present in the feces. We will need to determine the kind of worms/parasites to administer the proper treatment protocol. If you notice worms/parasites in the feces, please call the Adoption Counselor at 570-596-2200 ext. 202 or email adoptions@animalcaresanctuary.org/direct email.

Heartworm Prevention - (Given monthly) – Helps prevent heartworms and most intestinal parasites. Heartworm prevention is a chewable treat like tablet that should be given each month on the due date. Animal Care Sanctuary gives our dogs Interceptor Plus. Please let us know if the dog received this treatment through your foster portal.

Flea and Tick Prevention – (Given monthly) – Helps prevent flea and tick infestation. Animal Care Sanctuary uses Effipro that is a topical treatment and administered on the back of the neck. This should also be given each month on the due date. Please let us know if the dog received this treatment through your foster portal.

On the dog's medical history paperwork sent home with you, the next doses of treatments will be highlighted showing the date they are due.

Health Concerns: The following is a list of common medical issues you may encounter as a foster parent with your dog. This information is not meant to be extensive, just to give you an idea of what common ailments you may come across. Please refer to the Foster Emergency Protocol for additional details.

If your foster dog displays any of the following symptoms, please email the Adoptions Counselor at adoptions@animalcaresanctuary.org/direct email.

- Broken/bleeding nails
- Adverse reaction to medication
- Incidence of aggression
- Limping
- Noticeable hair loss
- Dirty/Stinky ears
- Itchiness/Skin irritation
- Watery/Gunky Eyes
- Normal/Congested Cough
- Normal/Congested Sneezing
- Nasal or Ocular Discharge (Note Color)
- Straining to Eliminate/Blood in Urine
- Worms in feces
- Open surgical site/Picking at sutures
- 1 or multiple incidences of vomiting
- 1 or multiple incidents of diarrhea
- Low appetite for multiple meals
- Wound (open/exposed)

The following situations we consider to be an emergency, please contact:

570-596-2200 (ACS main line, available 7:30 – 6:00 Monday – Saturday, 7:30 – 4:00 Sunday)

Email adoptions@animalcaresanctuary.org

- Lost animal
- Animal bite (broken skin)
- Profuse bleeding
- Unresponsive
- Ingestion of something toxic/Foreign object
- Seizure/disorientation
- Extreme lethargy/Laying lateral
- Heavy/Labored breathing.
- Continuous vomiting/Diarrhea
- Can't stand/Walk
- Severe injury
- Aggressive behavior/feeling unsafe

Please have the following specifics ready to give when reporting any of the above:

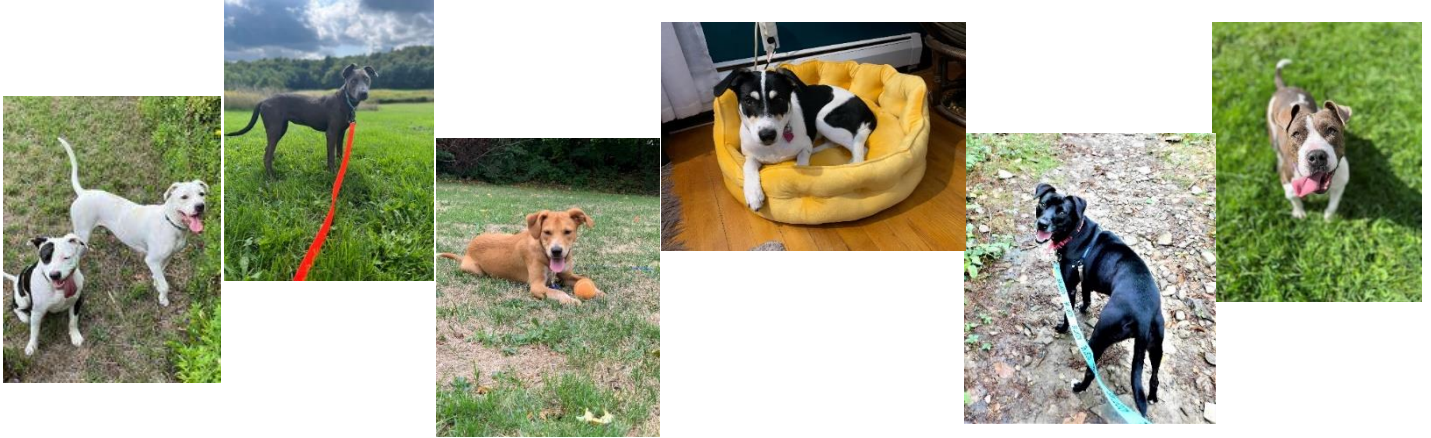
- Energy level
- Eating frequency
- Drinking frequency
- Defecation Frequency
- Urination Frequency
- Start date of symptoms
- Anything else unusual
- Current medications (if applicable)
- Interaction with other animals (if applicable)
- What was happening before the incident, how it happened, and who witnessed it
- Include Picture (if applicable)

ACS covers all approved medical expenses for animals in the shelter's foster program. General medical care for ACS foster dogs is provided at the discretion of the veterinarians and veterinary technicians at ACS on-site clinic. Once a foster dog is in your care, you are responsible for transporting them to the shelter clinic for necessary medical care. Should foster dogs require care from a full-service veterinary practice, ACS will arrange appointments with approved veterinarians in the East Smithfield area. We ask that you provide transportation if possible. Foster parents must not medicate any foster dogs in their care without prior approval from the ACS staff.

Advertising Fosters on Social Media: If you're on Facebook, we would love for you to post your foster dog as soon as possible to help find them a home. When posting on social media we ask that you keep all posts clean, upbeat and with clear pictures as well as a link for people to adopt at <https://animalcaresanctuary.org/adopt/>. We also ask that you do not use stop language when posting about your foster because that can often make it harder to find their forever home. Stop language is when you post that your foster must go to this type of home or can only have that type of family. Language like that tends to make people question if they would be the right fit for the foster animal and they tend to move on to the next adoptee with less needs.

Facebook Group: We have a Facebook group called "ACS Foster Today". It's a public group that anyone can join and share the content on their personal page. This page is intended for foster parents to post pictures and updates of their current foster fur babies to help find them their homes. We ask that you post very clear pictures and fun updates weekly at a minimum. This will help us reach a wider range of potential adopters to see your foster animal and how well they do in your home.

Picture Tips: Making high pitched sounds will often get the dogs' attention, having a treat or toy in hand to get the dogs' attention also captures a great photo! Dogs being goofy, snuggling with other critters, or just being cute are all great ways to get their personality out there as well. Some great examples below:



If you're not on Facebook, please be sure to e-mail photos to the adoptions counselor's direct email or to adoptions@animalcaresanctuary.org so we are able to transfer them to our ShelterLuv database. And keep updating us on their personalities for us to write their biographies.

Adoption from Foster: The adoption process is very simple! Any interested adopter should start by filling out the adoption form on our website www.animalcaresanctuary.org/adopt/. From there, our adoption counselor will reach out and have a conversation with the potential adopter and ensure the dog is a good match for them and vice versa.

Once everyone is good to go, we'll connect you with the potential adopter and between the two of you, you can decide where the best meeting place can be. Please let your adoption counselor know the day and time of the meeting. During the meet and greet, if the adopter would like to take the dog home with them, we'll just have you go over the Adoption Contract and other paperwork prepared for you in the blue adoption bag.

The adoption counselor will also follow up with the adopter to ensure they understand the contract, medical history, and other paperwork included in the adoption process.

Once the paperwork is complete, the adoption counselor can text a link to the adopter's cell phone to finalize the adoption through our ShelterLuv database. It's that simple!

As always, we are more than happy to conduct all adoption processes on site if you prefer. Just let us know.

You can refer to the Adoption from Foster sheet sent to you in the welcome email for further information.

Adoption Fees

Puppies (5 months and under) \$340

Adult Dogs (over 5 months old) \$190

Senior Dogs (over 7 years old) \$100

Some adoption fees have also been sponsored. We will let you know if your foster animal has been sponsored!

Bringing Your Foster Back to the Shelter:

- The Adoptions Counselor will coordinate with you when your fosters should come back to ACS or you can email adoptions@animalcaresanctuary.org/direct email of your adoption counselor or call 570-596-2200 ext. 202 to make an appointment for your cat to return to the shelter. This will ensure there is a kennel space ready for their arrival.
- Bring in any medical records, old or new, and other paperwork sent with you at the time of pick up.
- Please bring the completed Foster Home Report for your foster cat(s) – we will ask you additional questions once you arrive back at ACS. Please allow at least 30 minutes for this appointment upon returning to ACS with the cat.
- Please bring all supplies that you have borrowed from the shelter for the duration of your foster term.

Cleaning and Disinfecting During and After Foster Groups: Common diseases you might run into when fostering animals are viruses, bacteria, parasites, and fungi. Keeping the foster room and space thoroughly clean and disinfected is important to mitigate potential spread of diseases. Anything the fosters had contact with should be disinfected daily as well. A deep clean of foster spaces and items should be done when your fosters leave.



To further help decrease the chances of spreading infectious diseases during and after your foster terms, set up an isolation area for foster animals, practicing good hand hygiene before and after handling animals and objects, cleaning, and disinfecting items in the foster space.

Please refer to the Rescue Disinfection Protocol for Foster Care for details on proper disinfection. Found as an attachment in the welcome email as well as in your foster take home folder.

Contacts:

570-596-2200 (ACS main line, available 7:30 – 6:00 Monday – Saturday, 7:30 – 4:00 Sunday)

Canine Adoption Counselor direct line: 570-596-2200 ext. 202

adoptions@animalcaresanctuary.org