

THE
RED
DOG
PROJECT



FOSTER HOME INFORMATION



Thank You! For Saving a Life!

We're very grateful you've chosen to foster a dog waiting to go into our prison project. Without your help the dog in your care may have been euthanized for no better reason than no where for him/her to go – but that changed with you!

This packet has specific information about the program as well as general training instruction. If you're new to fostering please take the time to at least read through this packet carefully. We're always available if you have any questions or concerns.

General Length of Stay

Our charity is well versed in finding adopters for dogs in need. Generally the dogs in the Red Dog Project stay in the program for anywhere between 4 and 8 weeks, longer if they need more time. Our goal is to help the project dogs become comfortable in many different settings and that can be a short or long process, depending on the dog and the issues she came in with.

Adoption Events

Every month our volunteers will hold an adoption event where we meet potential adopters and conduct interviews and screening. Dogs from the project are scheduled to meet all family members and household pets of prospective adopters before an adoption contract is agreed upon. If you can bring your foster dog to this event it would be very helpful, but, if you can't, please let us know a week in advance and we will arrange a volunteer transport for your dog.

***PLEASE MAKE SURE TO SEND ALL OF THE DOG'S BELONGINGS AND PAPERWORK ETC. WITH THE DOG WHEN SHE GOES TO THE ADOPTION EVENT.**

Paying for Vetting and Other Costs

We understand foster dogs may have a few days of adjustment in their new home where they may be a bit "blue" or not eating well. Please keep in contact with us to give us an update on the overall health and well being of your foster dog. We will NOT pay for any veterinary care which is outside of our charity veterinary partner.

**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU CONTACT THE RESCUE COODINATOR BEFORE
TAKING AN MEDICAL ACTION FOR YOUR FOSTER DOG!**

Our charity veterinarian is:

Mill Pond Veterinary Hospital
229 E Main St, Branford, CT 06405
Phone:(203) 488-5990

Guidelines for Incoming Dogs

Your foster dog has been:

- Screened for any aggressive behavior – toward any people, other dogs or other animals.
- All dogs have been quarantined for three weeks before coming to your home and they have been checked by two veterinarians for general health.
- Your foster dog has been spay/neutered, micro-chipped, heartworm tested, dewormed and given a flea preventative.

Meeting Household Dogs

If you can avoid a meeting with your household dogs for at least a few days it will really help your foster dog get adjusted and comfortable.

Discipline

Our program emphasizes positive training only. We do not hit or yell at dogs for any reason. If you have questions on appropriate training techniques please ask, we have many training information resources at our office as well.

Housebreaking

Without a doubt house breaking is best accomplished by using a crate and consistent language (let's go potty) and schedule. Please ask for training information on housebreaking.

Aggression

We do not tolerate aggression in any of our dogs and all have been screened appropriately. However, dogs, like people, react differently to different situations. If your dog shows any signs of aggression please contact us immediately.

Length of Foster

Generally our dogs are in foster for anywhere from one week to 12 weeks. We are very diligent at promoting our dogs and finding responsible adopters for them.

Using a Crate

The dogs in our program are required to use a crate at night so we like to establish that routine early on. If you don't have a crate please let us know and we will provide one for you.

Sharing Information and Pictures of Your Foster Dog

We have a great community of dog lovers who would LOVE to see your pictures or tell your stories about your foster dog. Please visit our Facebook page at Dog Days Adoption Event and thank you for giving us your updates!

Bathing & Grooming

Please let us know if you're thinking your dog needs any bathing or grooming before you do so. Usually your dog has seen a groomer before coming to you and often times bathing and grooming can be very stressful for a shelter dog.

Feeding

The dogs in our program are fed TRACTOR SUPPLY GRAIN FREE 4 HEALTH TURKEY AND SWEET POTATO and that food will be provided to you when you receive your dog. **PLEASE DO NOT CHANGE THE FOOD THAT WE HAVE GIVEN YOU FOR YOUR DOG BUT DO CALL IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS.**

First Few Days

PLEASE NOTE: Dogs just out of a shelter or just off of a transport need a few days without a lot of interaction so they can relax and unwind. Please – do not ask your foster dog to meet new friends, children or your household pets for a few days.

Training Dates

At least once per month we'll have training days at our adoption center for foster families and their dogs – you're welcome to attend these and we'll send you a schedule of dates.

Preparing Your Dog for Adoption Events

In a Provided Folder:

- Any paperwork provided or obtained while you've had your dog.

In a large Ziploc bag:

- Your Dog's Food – Given by Dog Days

Dogs Original Bag

- Bag with toys, blanket etc. – Given by Dog Days

On the Dog:

- Martingale collar and/or harness and ID tag for each dog (unless this has been waived by Rescue Coordinator)

Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

- 1. Where do the dogs come from?** All of the dogs come from shelters or pounds and they all were in imminent danger of being euthanized.
- 2. How do you find adopters?** Through our web site and monthly adoption events held around the state.
- 3. How long will I have my foster dog?** Usually around three to six weeks would be a normal foster timeline. Some dogs are adopted much faster and some a bit longer. We generally like to allow the dog to have a few weeks of time to acclimate to the foster setting before going to a forever home. This allows the adopter to learn more about the dog's behavior and traits from the foster parent.
- 4. How do you make sure adopters are responsible?** All of the adopters we work with have had a background check, references and vet checks done before they speak with our adoption counselor. If the counselor feels the adoption would be a good one we then schedule a meeting between a resident dog, if there is one, and the new dog. If that goes well we finalize the adoption. After the adoption we send a volunteer to do a home visit where we check on the dog in the new family, answer any questions, etc.
- 5. What if I want to adopt my foster dog?** That's fantastic, there is probably no better adopter than a foster parent! Please contact your adoption coordinator to manage the adoption paperwork.

6. **What if my foster dog doesn't like my resident dog?** Please call us immediately with any concerns regarding dogs not getting along – we'll send someone to your home to help with the issues or move your foster dog to a new location. BUT – we expect that you will bring your resident dog to meet the foster before placement whenever possible.
7. **Do you pay for vetting costs?** We will ONLY pay for vetting work done at our partner vet hospital, Mill Pond Veterinary Hospital in Branford, CT. We will not pay for any supplements or monthly preventatives unless approved by the rescue or adoption coordinator.
8. **Can I find an adopter for my foster dog on my own?** Absolutely! But they will still have to fill in our online adoption application and go through our adoption process.

PROJECT Background

The Red Dog Project is a collaborative effort between state agencies, private foundations, businesses and individuals organized to address the medical and rehabilitative needs of high risk, or “project” dogs throughout America by finding unique foster settings to take them in.

Our charity receives many calls throughout the year to help dogs in need of temporary space before an adopter can be found. The reasons may be dire, such as the dog will be euthanized in a shelter for lack of space, the dog may be in danger like living outside next to a highway with no food or shelter, the dog may be abandoned by her owner, the dog may be abused and in need of medical attention or the dog may be fearful and unable to cope with her surroundings.

Often it's difficult to put a dog directly into the home of an adopter when they've come from difficult circumstances. For this reason we feel a rehabilitative foster setting will help both dogs and adopters make a better and more lasting connection. Our rehabilitation goals are to:

1. Teach dogs to interact well with other dogs
2. Introduce them to human interaction with positive results
3. Evaluate their past stressors
4. Heal any medical problems associated with their past life.

Our program tag line: Find One Save Two represents the synergy between a person and their canine companion while each learns about the other in a safe and nurturing environment.

PROJECT Overview

Dogs are similar to us – they are individuals with likes and dislikes, fears and anxieties and ‘strong’ opinions in some matters. They may love children or avoid them, some love every stranger they meet and some are more selective.

Our project is based on the belief that, in some circumstances, dogs and individuals need time and rehabilitation to be properly socialized.

What does this mean? We look at dogs in many different ways to assess how they’re feeling in any given situation, how they will react, what they like and what they don’t like. Training is often a repetitive exercise to teach a skill the dog does not naturally possess. So, for instance, dogs don’t naturally “heel” but they will instinctively stay in a close range to someone they know and trust, especially in a new setting.

Some dogs will stay longer than others if they need more time to adjust to living in an environment with people and other dogs. Our program is not about adopting dogs out as soon as possible but about learning the right tactics to make every dog and every handler successful at becoming healthy. Each of the dogs coming into this program will require a different approach for socializing and rehabilitation but there are some general guidelines which will apply to all dogs.

Every week we will meet with the dogs to not only answer questions and address any concerns but to see the dogs interacting as a pack and learn, together, how they communicate their feelings without using words or language.

To read more about the program from local news please click on the following links:

[The Hartford Courant](#)

[The Day](#)

Dog Days – Sponsoring Charity

DOG DAYS ADOPTION EVENTS, INC. is an all-volunteer, tax exempt non-profit registered with the state of Connecticut. Our mission is to connect community members who care about and love dogs with the rescues, pounds and shelters who need fosters and adopters.

Since our incorporation in 2010 we have received numerous grants from national organizations like the ASPCA and the Petco Foundation, we are an approved participant in the Combined Federal Campaign, a registered Guidestar charity, a “Best” Charity designation by Independent Charities and we have been recognized by the Connecticut General Assembly for our charitable work helping shelter dogs in need. Our founder often speaks before our legislature on animal welfare issues and we are fully compliant with all municipal, state and federal laws as they relate to animal rescue work.

Dogs Days has rehomed more than 1500 shelter dogs since 2010 by following responsible adoption practices, above standard veterinary care, meticulous record keeping and superior adopter support.

Our mission is sustained by four initiatives:

1. Well attended **ADOPTION EVENTS** organized by our trained volunteers.
2. **TRAINING** volunteers to help rescues and municipal pounds.
3. **RESCUING** dogs for The Red Dog Project.
4. Providing **DISASTER RELIEF SERVICES** for companion animals.

Contact Information

Emergency Number Medical:

Pieper Memorial
730 Randolph Rd
Middletown, CT
24-Hours

860-347-8387

Charity Veterinarian:

Mill Pond Veterinary Hospital
229 E Main St, Branford, CT 06405
Phone:(203) 488-5990

Emergency Number Non Medical:

860.575.0557

Charity Mailing Address:

Dog Days Adoption Events
The Red Dog Project
105 Elm Street
PO Box 64
Old Saybrook, CT 06475

General Phone Numbers:

Toll Free: 800.653.3134 | Office: 860.575.0432

Emails:

General Information

info@godogdays.org