

# **Pet Savers Dog Adoption Instructions**

Owning a pet is a commitment and a serious responsibility. Companion animals rely on us when they are hungry, thirsty, hot, cold, sick or frightened. They are unable to care for themselves in this way.

## FOOD & WATER

Your pet has been eating Science Diet. You are receiving one (1) bag of Science Diet with your adoption. If you plan to change your dogs diet, buy a recognized dog food brand and gradually introduce the new food by gradually increasing the percentage of new food with the Science Diet. Sudden dietary changes and stress can cause stomach upset. Your veterinarian will best be able to help you determine your pet's long-term dietary needs. Feeding table scraps is NOT recommended. These rich tidbits may cause digestive upset such as gas, loose stools or diarrhea and even vomiting. In the case of leftover bones, they actually pose a choking hazard as they can easily become lodged in your pet's esophagus or further down the intestine. Many foods, including chocolate, are poisonous to your pet. Fresh water must always be available.

## SHELTER & BEDDING

Your dog needs a warm, dry place in the winter and a cool, shady, dry place to rest and sleep in the summer. Preferably your pet will be kept indoors at night or someplace safe from predators.

#### WORMS, FLEAS & DISEASE

Heartworm disease is a serious disease that results in severe lung disease, heart failure, other organ damage, and death in pets. Heartworm is very common in the Southern states. The worms are spread through the bite of a mosquito. The dog is the definitive host, meaning that the worms mature into adults, mate, and produce offspring while living inside a dog. Monthly preventatives for fleas, ticks and intestinal worms are available from your family veterinarian. You must agree to give your pet monthly preventatives for fleas, ticks and intestinal worms are available from your pet has been on monthly preventative. Monthly preventatives for fleas, ticks and intestinal worms are available from your pet has been on monthly preventative. Monthly preventatives for fleas, ticks and intestinal worms are available from your family veterinarian. Pet Savers does not recommend over-the-counter medications. Please make an appointment with your veterinarian immediately to obtain your heartworm medication. If you do not have a veterinarian, we can help you find one. Your pet's next heartworm pill is DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF NEXT MONTH.

#### GOING HOME (Source: Humane Society of the United States)

The key to helping your new dog make a successful adjustment to your home is being prepared and being patient. It can take anywhere from two days to more than two months for you and your pet to adjust to each other. Please visit www.HSUS.org for more information about bringing your new dog home.

#### **EXERCISE & HEALTH**

Regular exercise and a trim waistline are healthy for your companion's body and mind. A large back yard is no substitute for regular walks and attention.

#### **KEEPING SPOT SAFE**

It is important to keep your dog tagged and collared at all times. Pet Savers recommends that you microchip your pet through your family veterinarian. Please know that during the adjustment time, you must be especially aware of your dogs whereabouts as he/she is orienting to a new environment and for some, this may take time. If your pet goes missing, contact Pet Savers immediately to assist with the recovery process.

There is an enormous amount of information available on the world wide web. Please contact Pet Savers if you have any questions about your new dogs care or behavior. We are here to help you during your transition. Thank you for choosing Pet Savers for your new family member!

Questions? Linda Shemwell (318) 861-2020 or email shemwell@comcast.net www.petsaversshreveport.org



## **Pet Savers Dog Adoption Contract**

Pet's Name:

I agree to the following:

1. My dog is to live in a private residence as a companion animal.

2. I will provide the dog with sufficient quantities of nutritious food and fresh water each day.

3. I will never strike or otherwise harm the dog.

4. Spaying or neutering is required by 5-6 months of age. If your dog is not spayed or neutered prior to adoption, proof of surgery must be mailed to Pet Savers within 30 days of the procedure. If I have adopted a dog that is not spayed/neutered, I have received my \$50 spay/neuter voucher. I understand that if I do not spay/neuter I will need to relinquish my dog and adoption fee to Pet Savers.

5. To ensure that the dog's vaccinations for rabies and distemper are current and to provide veterinary care upon sickness, disease or injury.

6. If the dog must be surrendered for any reason, I promise NOT turn the dog over to a municipal shelter, give it away or sell it. I will return the pet to Pet Savers if I am unable to care for it properly.

7. I promise to keep my dog on heartworm preventative for the duration of his/her life.

8. Pet Savers is not responsible if the dog acts in an aggressive manner or becomes ill in the future.

9. I understand that failure to perform the foregoing agreement will constitute a breach of contract. In the event of any such breach of contract, I authorize the Pet Savers to reclaim possession of the adopted dog.

Print Name:			
Signature:		Date:	
Address:			
Email:	Phone:		
DL#:			
I heard about Pet Savers via			
Staff Member:	Adoption Fee:		
Additional Donation:	Voucher:	YES	NO