

What About The Dog?

All dogs will require some form of doctor's care, be it an annual vaccination and check-up, or something more serious. Dogs can become sick and require medicine. They also need to learn what they can and cannot do, which will take guidance, patience and understanding. But most of all, they need a lot of attention, love and encouragement. When you decide to adopt a dog, make sure you are making an educated decision and not an emotional decision. Bringing a dog into your life is a lifetime commitment... the dog's lifetime, that is.

Some may find us strict. So be it. We have seen far too many instances of people adopting a dog from a shelter, only to return the animal... sometimes after a few days, sometimes after a few weeks. We've seen people return their dog after six months, even years later, because they were unwilling to invest any time in the dog and never bonded with it (even though the dog bonded with them). We have heard people admit knowing "when we adopted the dog it had X behavior issue but we thought it would just go away and it hasn't." Our rescued dogs were dumped by their owners at least once before, which is why they ended up in our care. To have someone adopt a dog from us only to dump the dog again is, in our humble opinion, unforgivable.

Our contract clearly states that an owner may not give away, sell, euthanize or abandon a dog obtained from us. If, for some reason, the adoption doesn't work out, we ask that you return the dog to us. We believe that the only acceptable reasons for returning a dog to us are displays of human aggression, an unmanageable in-home dog-aggression issue, the death of the dog's adoptive owner, or the incapacitation of the dog's adoptive owner which prevents him/her from providing the dog with proper care. We can see no other reason to give up on and abandon the very dog we entrusted to your care. That dog has come to rely on you for protection and companionship. Don't be yet another owner to let that dog down.

The adoption process begins with the completion of the Adoption Application. Before potential adopters can meet our dogs, the Application must be filled out and approved. The only exception is when our dogs participate in local adoption events which are open to the public. Once the Adoption Application is approved and a dog selected, we will contact you to schedule a meeting with the dog. A home visit is the last step in the process.

One last request. Please think about what our dogs have been through during their lives. Knowing this, can you honestly consider the possibility of adopting, only to turn around and give the dog back? If you cannot wholeheartedly commit to a lifelong relationship with a dog, do not ask to meet one of ours. These dogs don't deserve further trauma, drama or disappointment.