



Angel-Paws Inc.

Foster Carers Requirements and Information

Thank you for your interest in becoming an Angel-Paws Inc. foster carer. Foster carers provide much-needed love and support for animals that need temporary care prior to being adopted. By opening your heart and your home to a rescue pet, you can help them be part of a family environment while they're waiting to find their forever home. And you get to enjoy their unconditional love and cuddles! Please understand that we cannot always guarantee an animal's age, breed or temperament. Please be cautious when exposing your foster animal to other animals, to children and to the elderly. When in doubt, keep them separated or closely supervised.

Your Responsibilities

You must inform your Angel-Paws Inc. coordinator if there are any changes to your circumstances or any changes in the animals you are fostering. For example:

- Animal health is deteriorating (stops eating, drops weight etc). Even something as simple as a puppy vomiting can be a symptom of something much worse, so please inform us of any changes you notice. We are more than happy to receive any messages or calls in regards to any of the animals' health.
- If at any point you arrange for anyone other than persons living with you to look after the foster animals (even for short periods).
- Any personality changes in the animals (begins biting, attacking, growling, shows no interest in favourite toy etc).
- If at any point you feel that you can no longer look after the animals you are fostering.
- If you're foster animal is involved in any attacks or is injured.

Helping us find your foster animal a home:

- As a foster carer, your coordinator will contact you to make an appointment for any potential adoptive parents. Please let your coordinator know if you would prefer not to have these meet and greets at your home and we can arrange an alternative location. An Angel-Paws Inc. representative will always be present at an arranged meet and greet.
- We will regularly be in contact with you to organise photo shoots with your animal. Please try and be as flexible and available as possible. We understand you have a busy life of your own but updated photos can be the difference between a foster and a forever home. We really appreciate all your cooperation.
- Angel Paws Inc. asks that when taking your foster animals anywhere, you inform any persons interested that they are available for adoption. In some cases, you may be issued with items for your animals to wear to advertise this fact. For any interested parties, please give them your coordinator's number to contact regarding the animals.

Keeping your foster animal safe

- Your foster cats and kittens must remain indoors at ALL times.
- Your foster puppies and dogs must always be kept in a securely fenced yard.
- Please remember to keep any foster puppies inside your yard and away from strange dogs until a minimum of two weeks past their final vaccination. Up until this point they are not fully vaccinated and are still susceptible to many of the nasty diseases we are vaccinating against. Your coordinator will let you know when you are able to take your foster puppy for walks.
- If your foster animal escapes your house or yard, please contact your relevant coordinator immediately.

Parvovirus

Unvaccinated puppies are highly susceptible to parvovirus and their mortality rate is high due to their immature immune system.

Parvovirus is a highly contagious and often deadly virus in dogs. It can be prevented by making sure your dog always gets his/her annual vaccinations. It is most common in dogs under 12 months of age. After infection, symptoms will appear in 3 to 14 days. Be alert for signs of infection in your new foster dog for the first 2 weeks and contact your coordinator immediately if you suspect you see a sign. The initial signs are: lethargy and loss of appetite. Some people liken the dog's mood to that of being

depressed. These signs may be followed later by a strong desire to drink a lot or a little, vomiting, fever (sometimes), diarrhoea, some traces of blood may be present also, and dehydration. If you see any of these symptoms act promptly. DO NOT WAIT. The sooner treatment is started the better chance the dog has of survival.

Fostering Puppies

Angel-Paws Inc. takes a proactive stance on attempting to reduce environmental contamination of parvovirus. We have a quarantine policy for new puppies or dogs that are surrendered into our care that have not been fully vaccinated yet or we are unsure of their vaccination status, for a period of two (2) weeks. Set out below are details of our requirements. *By reading the following sections and answering the relevant questions on the Foster Carers Application Form, it will determine if you are able to foster puppies or dogs that fall into that category.*

Important - Our Quarantine Policy

Please note the following information is not relevant to fostering ALL dogs or puppies. It is only for dogs newly surrendered to us that we cannot guarantee vaccination status of OR puppies that are newly surrendered to us.

Our quarantine policy is to keep them and your yard as safe as possible. Once this period is over, dogs and puppies will be able to be placed with foster carers that don't have the ability to safely quarantine them. The quarantine period is two (2) weeks. This is a precautionary measure more than anything to reduce the risk of contamination in the foster carer's yard and will enable foster carers that take puppies to keep fostering with us on a long-term basis. You will be provided with all relevant training and supplies that you will require to safely foster 'at-risk' puppies. Dogs that develop parvovirus will typically show symptoms 3-10 days after being exposed. Angel-Paws Inc. would like for foster carers of puppies that are newly surrendered to our care that haven't yet had any vaccinations, or have only had their 1st vaccination, to have the ability to 'quarantine' the puppies for a minimum period of 2 weeks. All this means, is that ideally, we would like you to:

- contain them on a concreted area for the majority of the time (2 weeks) and when letting them onto the grass, you contain them to the same sectioned off area; OR
- if you aren't able to do that, have the ability to section off an area of your yard to contain them in. This is the safest way to ensure that if a puppy is unfortunate to contract the virus, the rest of your yard is not contaminated.

This is not to say that the puppies will or will not contract parvovirus, it is merely a process we would like for our foster carers to implement. We understand that most people will not have the ability to quarantine dogs or puppies for the two week period so if you aren't able to do this and would still like to foster, we will still process your application. You just need to be aware of the risks if you don't have the ability to 'quarantine' them. Once parvo has been in your yard all unvaccinated puppies are at high risk of contracting it as it may live in the soil for years and this will mean that you won't be able to foster unvaccinated puppies through Angel-Paws Inc. in the future.

Food and Care

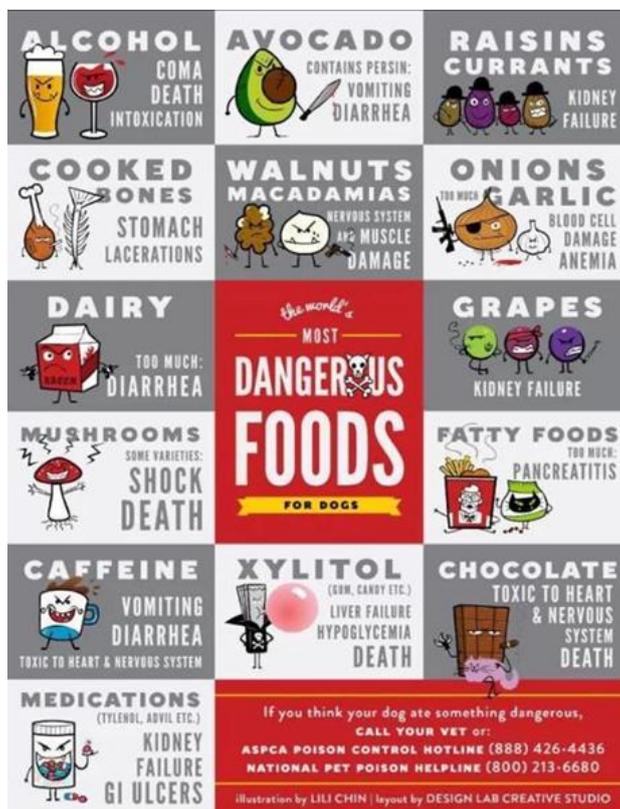
- Food will be provided to you where possible when donations are given to Angel-Paws Inc. If you need food please contact your animals' coordinator. We recommend you use a higher quality pet food such as Supercoat, Royal Canine, Science diet etc.
- Please be sure **not** to feed your animal anything inappropriate and bad for their health. Even though they are a part of your family and I'm sure they feel as though they should eat whatever you eat, some 'people' foods can make them very ill. Please find a list of banned foods at the bottom of this page.
- Worming, Flea and Tick control will be provided where possible. If there is a major infestation please contact your coordinator.
- Please worm your foster animal with a veterinary recommended product such as Drontal/Milbemax/Sentinel. If you are unable to worm your foster animal contact your coordinator.
- If at any time you believe your foster animals require any veterinary care, call your coordinator immediately and they will instruct you further. If you are unable to reach your coordinator, firstly call Zoe (Vet Coordinator). If either of these 2 people aren't answering, call one of the committee members whose contact numbers are below. If you are unable to reach any of the coordinators and feel it is an emergency, please contact the vet directly and explain the situation. All relevant contact details are at the bottom of this page.
- Please remember all food and treatment such as worming are on a donation base only. Veterinary care is paid for by Angel-Paws Inc. from community donations.

Veterinary Appointments

Almost all of our foster animals will require vaccinations and desexing while in our care. The number of vaccinations will depend on the age of the animal. These appointments will be made by our veterinary coordinator. If possible we ask that the foster parents take their foster animals to these appointments. If that is not an option, transport will be arranged. Depending on the procedure, recovery care may be required. The vet and/or your coordinator will explain this when necessary.

Training

Many dogs will need 'refresher courses' on housetraining and house manners (gentle, sit etc) so we ask that you familiarise yourself with some basic training techniques. This will be a big help in preparing your foster dog for a new home.



But most importantly:

We could not do any of this without the help of our foster angels, so thank you so very much for allowing us to give these animals a second chance at life. Your volunteering has saved countless lives. Thank You!