

Animal ID# _____

Montgomery County, Virginia

Animal Name _____

Date _____

ANIMAL ADOPTION CONTRACT

Species _____ Breed _____ Color _____

Age _____ Sex _____ Sterilized: _____ Unsterilized _____

Name (Adopter)

Street

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home phone _____ Work Phone _____

E-mail _____

The Animal H.O.P.E. Alliance (A.H.A.) wants you to enjoy your new pet. A.H.A. is interested in your satisfaction and the welfare of the animal. In order to ensure these objectives A.H.A. and the new owner jointly agree to the following:

A.H.A. agrees:

1. To transfer the animal to the adopter.
2. To provide routine deworming, currently recommended vaccines for dogs and cats and for animals over three months of age, a rabies vaccination.
3. Cats will be tested for feline leukemia and feline immunodeficiency virus.

The Adopter agrees:

1. To adopt the animal as a personal pet or companion and not as a gift or a chained guard dog and never to be used for research purposes.
2. To provide all veterinary care and treatment needed by the animal, including yearly medical checkups, any vaccinations indicated by your veterinarian, preventative heartworm medicine for dogs and immediate treatment of illnesses or injury.

3. Not to keep the animal on leased or rented property where a no-pets policy is in place.
4. To obey all applicable laws governing the control and custody of animals.
5. To provide adequate fresh food and water, clean and dry shelter, daily exercise and appropriate socialization and training.
6. If a dog, to provide a safe collar with rabies and identification tags.
7. To allow A.H.A. to visit my premises to insure that the terms of this agreement have been kept.
8. To return the animal to A.H.A. rather than abandon or sell it. To give A.H.A. notice as early as possible to take the animal back into its rescue program.
9. That if he can no longer keep the animal and he finds another party to adopt it, the adopter agrees to contact A.H.A. and refer the party for pre-adoption screening.
10. To pay the costs, including attorney fees if A.H.A. must take action against the Adopter or his/her representatives to enforce any of the terms of this contract.
11. To hold A.H.A. harmless from any veterinary fees incurred by or damage caused by the animal while it is in my care.
12. To pay the nonrefundable adoption fee and the refundable sterilization deposit fee, if either are applicable.
13. That he is fully aware that A.H.A. makes no guarantee whatsoever as to the health, temperament, mental disposition and training of the animal.
14. That if the adopter has other pets at home, the adopter attests all are current on vaccinations and the adopter fully and completely releases A.H.A., its agents and volunteers from any claim of liability for illness the adopter's animals may develop even if such illness may have been caught from the animal adopted.
15. That no cosmetic surgery such as ear cropping and tail docking be performed on the animal. That debarking and declawing not be performed on the animal.
16. To have the animal sterilized by _____.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE ADOPTION IS CONDITIONAL AND NOT FINAL UNTIL THE ANIMAL DESCRIBED ABOVE IS ALTERED AND PROOF HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY THE SPECIFIED DATE.

I UNDERSTAND THAT NO ANIMAL ADOPTED FROM A.H.A. SHALL BE ALLOWED TO PRODUCE OFFSPRING. IF THE ANIMAL DOES PRODUCE OFFSPRING IT IS A BREACH OF CONTRACT AND THE ANIMAL AND ITS OFFSPRING MUST BE IMMEDIATELY RETURNED TO A.H.A.

IN EVENT OF EITHER OF THESE BREACHES OF CONTRACT THE ADOPTION FEE AND STERILIZATION FEE (IF ANY) SHALL BE CONSIDERED A DONATION TO A.H.A. AND OWNERSHIP OF THE ANIMAL SHALL REVERT TO A.H.A.

I GIVE MY PERMISSION FOR AN AGENT OF A.H.A. TO REMOVE THE ANIMAL FROM MY PREMISES IF THE ANIMAL IS NOT ALTERED AS AGREED, AND ENTRY SHALL NOT CONSTITUTE A TRESPASS UPON THE PREMISES OCCUPIED. (Initials)

17. Special conditions:

NOTE:

A) Items not covered in this contract; a) deworming for tapeworms or amoebic parasites b) treatment for skin conditions c) illness or injury.

B) Animals adopted from A.H.A. may have been exposed to disease from proximity to other animals; consequently **THERE IS SOME RISK IN ADOPTION**. A.H.A. strives to screen animals and to inform prospective adopters of any problems but some problems may not be evident to A.H.A. at the time of adoption. In the event that an animal has a health problem for which the adopter does not want to assume responsibility, the animal must be returned to A.H.A.

YOUR NEW PET AND RABIES

Wildlife rabies is currently present in Montgomery County. A dog, cat or other animal which is bitten (exposed) by a rabid animal may not develop symptoms or rabies for up to six months. During this time (the incubation period) the exposed animal may appear to be totally healthy. Since the vaccination history of foster animals is usually unknown, many of these animals may not be protected against rabies. Although all the animals offered for adoption have been carefully screened for signs of exposure to rabid animals prior to adoption, the possibility exists that your adopted pet may be infected.

It is therefore very important that you know that these symptoms could be rabies in your pet: change in behavior, vicious or nervous activity, difficulty swallowing, excessive drooling, difficulty walking or paralysis. If your adopted pet shows any of these symptoms, immediately separate the animal from people and other animals until it can be examined.

Newly adopted pets three months of age and older will receive a rabies vaccination before leaving A.H.A. foster care, but a rabies vaccination may not protect the animal from previous bites or other exposure to rabies.

I understand and accept that there is a risk in adoption and hold A.H.A. harmless of liability damage from any disease that the animal may harbor at the time of adoption.

ADOPTION FEE _____

STERILIZATION FEE _____

TOTAL _____

Adopter Signature

_____ **Date** _____

A.H.A. Representative Signature

_____ **Date** _____