



## Animal Refuge Center, Inc.

### Adoption Policy

1. Adopters must be 18 years of age or older, have a valid ID, a reliable method of contact and be responsive.
2. Adopters must understand and acknowledge that adopting a pet means taking responsibility for his or her health, wellbeing, and daily care for the life of the pet (up to 20+ years), and should be physically, mentally, and financially ready to do so.
3. Adopters must provide personal references who can speak to the level of responsibility, love, and care an adopter can give a new pet.
4. Adopters must disclose if current or past pets (including foster pets) have contracted a communicable disease within the last year. ARC will work with adopters to ensure living space is properly sanitized and safe for new pets.
5. Adopters must not have given away, sold, surrendered to another shelter/rescue, or rehomed pets adopted from ARC.
6. ARC will verify the pet policy and/or gain approval from the landlord/owner of the home or building for adopters who rent or live with parents, family members, friends, etc.
7. ARC will consider, during the application process, past and present pets in an adopter's care. Including, but not limited to, the pets' regular vet visits, spay/neuter status, elective procedures for cosmetic alterations (declawing, ear cropping, tail docking, etc.), vaccination history, FeLV and FIV testing, heartworm testing and prevention, etc.
8. ARC maintains a NO DECLAW policy. Declawing is painful, unnecessary, and in many cases leads to more behavioral and health issues. ARC cats and kittens will not be declawed under any circumstances.
9. ARC pets are expected to live indoors unless specifically expressed in the adoption contract. Outdoor pets must be provided adequate food, water, and shelter. Dogs will not be permanently tethered outdoors.
10. No gift adoptions. The pet's primary guardian must be present for the adoption and must agree to the terms of the adoption by signing the adoption contract.
11. Every application will be reviewed and considered. Applicants will be contacted before they are approved or denied in order to have a conversation about individual circumstances, needs, and expectations.
12. ARC does not do same-day adoptions or operate on a first-come, first-served basis. We work with potential adopters on a case-by-case basis to find the best home for each individual pet.
13. ARC reserves the right to deny adoption to any person(s) who do not meet the adoption policies, who are rude, aggressive, or violent, or are suspected to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
14. ARC's primary commitment is to our animals; we are their voice!



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The Animal Refuge Center screens all prospective pet adopters before adoption. Adopters must be prepared to provide references in order for an application to be approved. We ask for a veterinarian reference for current or past pets and we inquire as to your responsibility in keeping up with spay, neuter, vaccinations, and other prevention. It will make the process faster and smoother if you ensure the information provided is accurate.

Adopters must be 18 years of age or older, have a valid ID, have a phone and be responsive. Adopters must be able to financially and emotionally provide the appropriate daily care, as well as required vet visits for regular check ups and in the case of illness or injury. Adopters who rent or lease their homes must have approval from landlords or property managers to bring a new pet into the home.

No gift adoptions. The primary guardian must be present for the adoption and must agree to the terms of the adoption by signing the adoption contract.

Incomplete or inaccurate applications are subject to disapproval for that reason alone.

Pets are family members and deserve the same respect, planning and care as any other member of a home. Please be sure you and your family are ready to commit to a pet for their entire life (up to 20+ years), including difficult times, moving, a break up, etc. We understand that life happens, but it is important to know that animals surrendered to us and other rescues/shelters are scared and confused, and they can become very depressed and sick. When you adopt you are responsible for their health and wellbeing, do right by them and they will do right by you!