



[www.scooterspals.org](http://www.scooterspals.org)

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## FOSTERING GUIDELINES...Is Fostering a Dog Right for You?

Thank you for considering becoming a foster for one of our rescue dogs. Foster homes are the backbone of our rescue organization and are vitally important to the success of our rescue efforts. The information below will help you decide if fostering is right for you and your family.

**First and foremost, fostering a rescue dog is a commitment.** Once the dog is placed with you, you become part of a network of volunteers who are dedicated to helping that dog in every way possible, be it vet care, training, or just the gift of time.

Fostering provides a temporary home for a rescued dog until a permanent, good-fit “forever” home can be found. It also provides time for a dog to adjust or re-adjust to living in a home, and to learn socialization and good manners. For some dogs, the foster home also provides time to recover from an illness or medical procedure before he/she can be made available for adoption.

Your role in your foster dog’s life is vitally important to his/her well being and future placement in his/her new forever home. It is at times challenging. It is always rewarding.

### Basic Information

A foster family, who has signed a Foster Agreement and been approved by Scooter’s Pals, will provide a safe and stable environment for an agreed-upon period of time while Scooter’s Pals locates a suitable forever home for the rescued dog.

#### Information on rescue animals

- Often need vet care
- Sometimes have been abused or neglected
- Sometimes have behavioral issues and bad habits
- Sometimes have no obedience training
- Will be completely vetted, including spay or neuter, but there is no health guarantee
- Have lots of love to give

#### Requirements

- A commitment to care for the dog until a suitable forever home is found
- Arrange suitable short-term, back-up care for the dog when you go on vacation or out of town
- Safe environment
- Secure, fenced-in yard if needed, depending on the dog
- An indoor sleeping area at night

#### Duties

- Abide by the Foster Agreement
- Treat the dog with respect and care at all times
- Participate in assessing the dog’s health, habits, and temperament
- Assess the progress of the dog, notify the person responsible for posting our dogs online
- Feed a recommended brand of dog food twice a day
- Make certain the dog has water available at all times; wash the bowl, rinse well, and fill with fresh water daily
- Walk or play with the dog to socialize him/her

- Groom and bathe the dog as needed
- Give heart worm prevention monthly
- Insure that the dog is not left alone, unattended, or outdoors for prolonged periods of time

### Considerations

- Providing basic training for socialization, manners, and house training
- Taking your foster dog to the vet as needed
- Active participation in seeking a good-fit, loving, forever home for the animal
  - Attend our monthly Adoptathons and other events to promote your dog
  - Allow your contact information to be listed on our website for your foster dog
  - Allow and encourage people to meet the animal
  - Assist in reviewing adoption applications for suitable adoptive homes
  - Assist in home checks for suitable adoptive homes

### Assistance from Scooter’s Pals

- Food, medication and vet care, including all vaccinations, are provided by Scooter’s Pals as necessary and as the foster needs that assistance
- Assistance with transportation to/from the vet or events such as Adoptathons
- Guidance on dog behavioral issues and corrective dog training by our professional trainers

### The Adoption Process

- Your duty is to provide information about your foster dog, his personality, and temperament to anyone interested in adopting the dog.
- If you are contacted by someone about your foster dog and you will be meeting with them, please notify your Foster Mentor. Your Foster Mentor may or may not attend this meeting.
- Instruct anyone interested in adopting your foster dog to fill out an Adoption Application by going to the **RESOURCES** page on our website [www.scooterspals.org](http://www.scooterspals.org) and clicking the **ADOPTION APPLICATION** button. Applications are mandatory for all adoptions.
- Refer anyone with questions about the application, home check or the adoption fee to our Foster Coordinator.

### Heart Worm Prevention and Vet Visits

Heart worm prevention will be provided by Scooter’s Pals. You can provide heart worm prevention for your foster dog to help offset the costs for Scooter’s Pals. Your Foster Mentor will provide information on which vet you should use for routine care or in the event of an emergency.

### Recommended Dog Food

Scooter’s Pals recommends a high quality dog food for all foster dogs. Natural Balance, Wellness, and Fromm are a few suggestions. Assistance with providing food is available through your Foster Coordinator.

Your Foster Mentor \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Foster Mentor Back-up \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Veterinarian \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Vet \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Disclaimer: Scooter’s Pals is not responsible for the behavior or temperament of the animals fostered or adopted out by our organization.**