

YOU GOT A NEW DOG, NOW WHAT?

We're so excited you have chosen to adopt a Rescued Treasure! We want all our families to be safe, happy, and successful with their new dog. Rescued dogs go through lots of big changes, including adoption, and we wish they were all positive changes but sometimes much of their history is negative, or unknown. With that in mind, we have constructed the below quick guide to assist the transition into your home. We are invested in the well being of all our rescued dogs and their families.

DECOMPRESSION

Decompression is a critical low-stimulation period for a new dog in the first (at least) two weeks of adoption. This period of time is used to reduce stress, build trust with your new pet, and help prevent behavioral issues. It includes keeping their environment calm, establishing a predictable routine, limiting their visitor exposure, and providing them with a safe and quiet space to settle into their new home.

Steps to Decompress your New Dog:

- Create a Safe Space - Set up their crate or a quiet room with bedding, toys, and water where your dog can retreat / have their own space.
- Establish a Routine - Start feeding, walking, and taking them out for potty breaks at the same time each day. This builds security for them in their new home.
- Limit Introductions - Every dog is different but for the first few days or weeks, do not introduce the dog to new people or other animals (outside the home). Too much too soon can make them feel nervous or fearful and they need time to adjust to their new lives.
- Quiet Walks - Stick to a quiet, familiar route initially for walks. Allow them to sniff and become familiar with their surroundings.

- Dog Lead Interactions - Let your new dog approach you rather than forcing attention or affection on them. This will help build trust and safety in your relationship and allow you to learn your dog's body language.
- Structure Feeding - You can use puzzle toys, Kongs, or lick mats in their space or crate to provide mental stimulation during this decompression period.
- Leashes - It is important to use leashes outside (even in fenced in spaces) while a new dog settles in to prevent running away or escaping. It is also encouraged to use leashes indoors to help guide them in their new space and prevent them from getting into trouble or hiding while they navigate their new spaces.

Important Signs to Look For:

New dogs can often exhibit stress even when friendly due to big changes.

Watch for this signs:

- Panting, Pacing, Unable to Settle
- Hiding or Trying to Escape
- Refusing to Eat or Drink
- Diarrhea or Holding their Bowel Movements for Long Periods of Time
- Growling or Snapping, Particularly when Overstimulated can be Signs of Fear or Stress.

Every dog is different based on experiences, genetics, and their environment. Please keep in mind that some dogs may need more than two weeks to fully settle into their new homes and build relationships with their new family. Given the opportunity, they will be your loyal, loving companion for the rest of their lives.



ROCHESTER AREA TRAINERS & BOARDING

DOG EDUCATED

[HTTPS://DOGEDUCATED.COM/](https://dogeducated.com/)

101 MAIN ST,
EAST ROCHESTER NY, 14445

SERVICES:

GROUP CLASSES
PRIVATE TRAINING

TAILS OF SUCCESS

[HTTPS://TAILSOFSUCCESSNY.COM/](https://tailsofsuccessny.com/)

999 EAST RIDGE RD, #200
ROCHESTER NY, 14621
585-360-0030

SERVICES:

DOGGY DAYCARE
BOARDING
GROUP CLASSES
PRIVATE TRAINING

THERA VET ACRES

[2 LOCATIONS]

[HTTPS://THERA-VET.COM/](https://thera-vet.com/)

1748 KENNEDY RD 8 NORTON ST
WEBSTER, NY 14580 HONEOYE FALLS NY, 14472
585-872-3791

SERVICES:

DAY PLAY / DAY BOARD
OVERNIGHT BOARDING
FITNESS & WELLNESS
THERAPEUTIC SERVICES

CENTRAL BARK

[HTTPS://WWW.CENTRALBARKUSA.COM/HENRIETTA/](https://www.centralbarkusa.com/henrietta/)

65 SAGINAW DR,
ROCHESTER NY, 14623

SERVICES:

DOG DAY CARE
BOARDING
GROUP TRAINING
PERSONALIZED TRAINING



IMMEDIATELY

INFORMATION TO HAVE READY:

- Address pet went missing from
- How did it go missing?
- Is it wearing a collar?
- Is it microchipped?
- Spayed or Neutered?
- How long you have had this pet

WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT HEARTWORM PREVENTION:

SOURCE: [HTTPS://HEARTWORMSOCIETY.ORG/](https://heartwormsociety.org/)



WHAT IS HEARTWORM DISEASE?

Heartworm disease is a serious and potentially fatal disease in pets in the United States and many other parts of the world that is spread by mosquitos. It is caused by foot-long worms (heartworms) that live in the heart, lungs and associated blood vessels of affected pets, causing severe lung disease, heart failure and damage to other organs in the body. Heartworm disease affects dogs, cats and ferrets, but heartworms also live in other mammal species, including wolves, coyotes, foxes, sea lions and—in rare instances—humans. Because wild species such as foxes and coyotes live in proximity to many urban areas, they are considered important carriers of the disease.

TESTING AND PREVENTION: All dogs should be tested annually for heartworm infection, and this can usually be done during a routine visit for preventive care. Following are guidelines on testing and timing:

- Puppies under 7 months of age can be started on heartworm prevention without a heartworm test (it takes at least 6 months for a dog to test positive after it has been infected), but should be tested 6 months after your initial visit, tested again 6 months later and yearly after that to ensure they are heartworm-free.
- Adult dogs over 7 months of age and previously not on a preventive need to be tested prior to starting heartworm prevention. They, too, need to be tested 6 months and 12 months later and annually after that.

The fact is that heartworm disease has been diagnosed in all 50 states, and risk factors are impossible to predict. Multiple variables, from climate variations to the presence of wildlife carriers, cause rates of infections to vary dramatically from year to year—even within communities. And because infected mosquitoes can come inside, both outdoor and indoor pets are at risk.

For that reason, the American Heartworm Society recommends that you “think 12:”

- (1) get your pet tested every 12 months for heartworm and
- (2) give your pet heartworm prevention 12 months a year.

PET POISON CONTROL:

- **Plan Ahead:** Look up Emergency and Urgent Care Vets in your area
- Call **ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center (888) 426-4435**
- Available 24 hrs a day, *There is a fee for this phone call*
- Try to safely collect any material left of what your pet ingested or came into contact with.
- **NOTE:** If your dog is having seizures, losing consciousness, is unconscious, or is having difficulty breathing, call your local veterinarian or emergency vet and immediately bring your dog in.
- Invest in an Emergency First Aid Kit for your Pet:
 - Hydrogen Peroxide 3% (to induce vomiting)
 - Turkey Baster or Large Syringe (to administer peroxide)
 - Saline Eye Solution (to flush eyes)
 - Artificial Tear Gel (to lubricate eyes after flushing)
 - Dawn Dish Soap (to bathe after skin contamination)
 - Forceps (to remove stingers)
 - Muzzle (to protect everyone from fear or pain induced biting)

For the ASPCA Poison Control Center's guide on

POISONOUS PLANTS

PEOPLE FOOD TO AVOID GIVING YOUR PETS

POISONOUS HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS

Scan the below QR Code:



MICROCHIP INFORMATION

AS PART OF OUR RESCUE'S MISSION TO KEEP FAMILIES AND PETS TOGETHER, WE MICROCHIP ALL DOGS UNDER OUR CARE AS PART OF THEIR VETTING PROCESS.

Nearly 10 Million Dogs & Cats are Lost or Stolen **EACH YEAR** in the United States.

Microchipped pets are three times more likely to be reunited with their owners.

How Do You Register A Microchip?

See Your dog's vet paperwork for the chip number and company, we have listed the ones we use below. Some dogs come already with a chip so you can also ask your vet for help finding out what company it belongs to if you do not know.

FI NANO



HOME AGAIN



PEEVA



UNKNOWN: You can register your dog's microchip for free at either or both of these lists:



REMEMBER:

A microchip is not a tracking device. The dog will be scanned and only works if the chip is registered to you so that you can be reunited with your dog should it ever get lost.

IS PET INSURANCE RIGHT FOR YOU?

Protect your pet from the unexpected!

You come home to find your dog vomiting and listless. After rushing her to the vet, you learn that she swallowed one of your socks and needs emergency surgery — to the tune of several thousand dollars. Can you afford to pay that bill? If not, pet insurance might be worth considering.

Pet insurance helps cover the cost of medical care for your furry friend. It can reimburse you for expenses like cancer treatment, emergency care, prescription medications and surgery.

You can feel secure taking your pet in to get veterinary care instead of waiting it out which can absolutely make the difference in some cases.

The average annual cost for an accident and illness policy is about \$594 for dogs and \$342 for cats, according to NAPHA. That works out to approximately \$50 a month for dogs and \$28 a month for cats. If you get just an accident policy, it's even less.

If you are interested or looking for Pet insurance; check out the following options:

- ☐ Check with your own homeowners insurance; some have pet insurance that can be added right to your existing policies
- ☐ AKC
- ☐ HealthyPaws
- ☐ Embrace
- ☐ Fetch (by the Dodo)
- ☐ Lemonade
- ☐ Nationwide

Or check out this article which compares a list of insurance companies to help you find a policy that fits you and your pet best!



ADDITIONAL VACCINE INFORMATION



LEPTO (NOW CONSIDERED A CORE VACCINE)

[HTTPS://WWW.AKC.ORG/EXPERT-ADVICE/DOG-BREEDING/ANNOUNCING-UPDATED-CANINE-CORE-VACCINE-RECOMMENDATIONS](https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/dog-breeding/announcing-updated-canine-core-vaccine-recommendations)

-LEPTOSPIROSIS-NOW-INCLUDED/

Leptospirosis is a bacterial infection caused by the Leptospira bacteria, which can affect dogs, humans, and other animals. It is typically spread through the urine of infected animals, contaminating water sources and soil. Dogs can contract leptospirosis by drinking contaminated water, coming into contact with contaminated soil, or through open wounds. The inclusion of leptospirosis in the core vaccine recommendations is driven by several factors:

1. Increased Incidence: There has been a notable rise in leptospirosis cases in various regions, posing a significant health risk to dogs.
2. Geographic Spread: Previously considered a risk in rural or tropical areas, leptospirosis has become more widespread, affecting urban and suburban areas.
3. Severity of Disease: Given the potentially severe and fatal nature of the disease, ensuring widespread vaccination can prevent serious health issues and fatalities.
4. Improved Vaccines: Leptospirosis vaccines historically had a high rate of side effects compared to other core vaccines. Improvements in the past decade, backed by scientific studies, show that the incidence of anaphylaxis and other side effects has decreased.
5. Zoonotic Potential: Leptospirosis can be transmitted from dogs to humans, which poses a significant and possibly fatal risk to people.

BORDETELLA

[HTTPS://WWW.AKC.ORG/EXPERT-ADVICE/HEALTH/BORDETELLA-VACCINE-DOGS/](https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/bordetella-vaccine-dogs/)

The Bordetella vaccine is a noncore vaccine usually given to dogs that are frequently exposed to other dogs in boarding or social settings. Many Canine facilities require it, such as dog daycare centers, boarding kennels, shows, dog parks, and training classes. It helps to protect dogs against kennel cough. Kennel cough, scientifically known as canine infectious tracheobronchitis, is easily spread from dog to dog through aerosol droplets, direct contact, or contact with contaminated surfaces like food and water bowls, toys, or kennel runs — a bit like how the common cold is spread in grade schools. Your dog is most likely to pick it up in an area where lots of dogs congregate, but they can also pick it up from any contaminated environment. Effective 2026, This will be included in adoptions.

LYME

[HTTPS://WWW.AAHA.ORG/RESOURCES/2022-AAHA-CANINE-VACCINATION-GUIDELINES/BORRELIA-LYME-DISEASE/](https://www.aaaha.org/resources/2022-aaaha-canine-vaccination-guidelines/borrelia-lyme-disease/)

Vaccination for Lyme borreliosis should be considered for dogs that live within or travel to regions with emerging or endemic Lyme disease. Lyme disease is caused by infection with tick-transmitted borrelial pathogens. Lyme disease is transmitted by the bite of Ixodid ticks.⁵⁵ In the northeastern, mid-Atlantic, and north-central United States and eastern Canadian provinces, the primary vector is Ixodes scapularis (black-legged tick, or deer tick).



PETSMART ADOPTIONS MADE EASY

If you give your consent, RTPA will complete the adoption with PetSmart using your adoption contract information. You can then go to any PetSmart store and sign up for their rewards program (they will be able to see your adoption in their system) and will receive all the below listed benefits!

VIPP (Very Important Pet Parent) status • PetSmart now upgrades adopters to the highest tier of its loyalty program (Treats Rewards). • This VIPP level gives: • More points per dollar spent • Exclusive deals and discounts • Special perks & offers • It's Top Tier membership just for adopting.	Treats Rewards points + ongoing savings • PetSmart's loyalty program gives: • Points on purchases (typically 10 points per \$1 spent) • Member-only pricing and personalized offers • Points can be redeemed for discounts on future purchases. • This helps reduce the ongoing cost of pet ownership.
Special gifts and perks for your pet Through Treats Rewards (especially at higher tiers), adopters can get: • Birthday or "Gotcha Day" gifts for their pet • Exclusive promotions and coupons • Early access to sales or special offers • PetSmart basically celebrates your adoption anniversary.	Adoption coupon books (worth up to \$400 in savings) • Many adopters receive a coupon booklet or starter discounts for essentials like: • Food • Toys • Grooming services • These vary by location but are commonly provided at adoption time. • This helps you stock up on supplies right away for less.
Immediate access to supplies + deals • Since you're adopting inside a PetSmart store, you can: • Use discounts immediately • Get guidance on what to buy • Combined with rewards points, this creates instant savings on first purchases.	Indirect "reward": more support for rescues • While not a personal perk, your adoption helps trigger funding and support for partner rescues through PetSmart's programs. • Your adoption contributes to a system that helps more pets get adopted.