



WHAT TO EXPECT

When fostering an Fluffy Dog Rescue dog



You've decided to foster a pawesome pal from Fluffy Dog Rescue!

Here are a few things you can expect as you embark on a rewarding journey to find a wonderful dog a fabulous family.

Take it step by step:

1. Review our [Adoptable Dogs on Petfinder](#) with ***"Needs a Foster Home"*** next to their name
2. Visit fluffydog.net to complete and submit the **Foster Application**, naming the dog you'd like to foster
3. Within a few days, you'll hear from a Fluffy Dog Rescue representative
4. Fluffy Dog Rescue will let you know if you're eligible to move forward to the "visit" step
5. You'll schedule a virtual, on camera visit with a Fluffy Dog Rescue representative - please ensure everyone who lives in your home is present
6. Following the virtual visit, you'll hear from Fluffy Dog Rescue to let you know if you're eligible to move forward to the "pup pick-up" step
7. You'll arrange a pick-up date and time to fetch your foster dog
8. At pick-up, you'll meet your foster dog and collect essential basic needs* such as:

- | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------|
| ▪ Crate | ▪ Dog food |
| ▪ Bed | ▪ Dog treats |
| ▪ Blanket | ▪ Dog toy |
| ▪ Collar | ▪ Medication: if applicable |
| ▪ Harness | ▪ Flea Protection (Apr-Oct) |
| ▪ Leash | ▪ Heartworm pills (Apr-Oct) |



***If you have spare essentials already at home, please let Fluffy Dog Rescue know so the rescue's supplies can be used elsewhere.**



9. You'll transport your foster pup home and follow the **"2-week shutdown"** protocol to ease them into your home life

NOTE: Visit fluffydog.net to find a variety of resources!

Bringing home your foster dog:

- ♥ Your foster dog may or may not want to eat when you first bring them home. Offer a small amount of food and fresh water. Do not be surprised if the dog does not eat for a couple days.
- ♥ It is not uncommon for our dogs to have diarrhea. They are stressed when they move home and are eating different food. Let us know if it persists more than three days.
- ♥ The first couple of weeks are a transition time for your foster dog. He/she is learning to trust you and new routines.



10. Please ensure your foster dog gets a pet tag asap with your name and phone number

- ♥ **Traditional engraved pet tags** are available to order from local retailers like PetSmart or Petco or online retailers like Chewy and Amazon. They typically take a week or two to arrive and cost around \$10+ plus shipping.
- ♥ **QR-code smart pet tags** are an alternative to engraved pet tags. Pawscout at Walmart is often available in-store or for same day pick-up and cost about \$7.

11. As a foster, one of your goals is to help your pup find its forever home. Fluffy Dog Rescue depends on its fosters to proactively and regularly (weekly) promote your rescue dog.

NOTE: On fluffydog.net, you'll find helpful resources to offer ideas and make promoting your pup fun and easy!

It's easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. **Create a Facebook Page** that's *dedicated only to your fostering journey*
2. Post **5 photos (videos, too) each week** with an update on your Foster dog's progress, behavior, personality, etc.
3. Share your updates with fluffydogrescue@gmail.com

Watch for Fluffy Dog Rescue Meet and Greet events

Via email and [on the Fluffy Dog Rescue Facebook page](#). These are great opportunities to showcase your foster pup and allow prospective adopters to see them in person!

Important reminders:

- **OUTDOORS:** Dogs should always be monitored outdoors – regardless of whether they are in a fenced area, and never be off leash.
- **COLLAR + TAG:** Your dog should be wearing his/her collar with the Fluffy Dog ID tag at all times. Please notify us if your dog is missing.
- **POTTY TRAINING:** Often these dogs are not housebroken. These dogs often come to us with very little history. It is best to have a crate to protect your belongings and also for the safety of the dog. We have crates available for your use.
- **VACCINATIONS:** Please ensure your animals are current on vaccinations at all times during fostering. These dogs do come from shelter environments, and it is recommended that you have your dog vaccinated for Bordatella. Bordatella is an optional vaccine to help in the prevention of Kennel Cough (KC).

Veterinary appointments:

- Fluffy Dogs receive vet care from a variety of vets. We currently work with vets in Pt. Washington, Hartland, Waukesha and Madison.
- All dogs will need spaying and neutering before adoption. This may have happened in Alabama, our care, or will need to be done in your care. All dogs arrive with rabies and distemper vaccines, and most are heartworm tested.
- If your dog needs to be altered, you will be notified of the date to bring your foster dog to the vet. Dogs are not to have anything to eat after midnight the night before surgery. Water is fine.
- Please be sure to follow the instructions after altering is complete. Dogs are not to be running, jumping or bathed for 14 days. Please notify us if any complications arise after surgery. Most dogs now are glued, externally vs. being stitched, so you do not have to worry about suture removal, but you will want to check and watch the site. Please don't allow them to lick the site. If you need a cone, just let us know.
- WI State law requires that every dog have a vet inspection, called CVI, prior to being adopted. The dogs come to WI with a Health Certificate that is good for 30 days, so your foster will only need the CVI done if they have been in WI more than 30 days. If your dog needs a CVI it will be indicated in the approval letter the approved adopter receives, and you are copied on.



Medical care:

- If your foster dog is coughing (dry, barky/gagging sound), it is possible it was exposed to Kennel Cough at the shelter or on transport. The stress does weaken the immune system, making them more likely to contract an illness they were exposed to. Please contact us if your dog is coughing excessively.
- Fleas are part of what we do. Hopefully, we have the fleas covered with the bath and flea protection. Sometimes certain fleas become immune to these products, so we use what is working in the areas where the dogs come from.
- All dogs are wormed prior to going to foster. If you see what looks to be grains of rice in the stool. These are tapeworm segments. They are from swallowing a live flea and are not contagious. Roundworms look like spaghetti in the stool and hookworms and whipworms are microscopic. If a dog did have worms, they may need two or three doses of wormer, as worms have eggs and they hatch. We provide you with this. Because of the potential of worms, pick up the stool from your rescue dog.
- If your dog requires medical treatment, you must contact us about getting an appointment at one of the vet clinics that we work with. Typically we do not see emergency situations with dogs. I am available almost 24 hrs. a day.
- In the event that your foster dog requires **emergency** medical treatment, please take the dog to your vet or the nearest emergency facility. A cough, runny nose, and diarrhea are not emergencies.
- Although we do attempt to manage costs, our first concern is the well-being of the animal. Veterinary bills will be reimbursed by Fluffy Dog Rescue if they are approved prior to the vet visit.



If you have an emergency with your foster dog,
contact Lori directly by phone at 262.352.2484 or email at fluffydogrescue@gmail.com.