

CANE ROSSO RESCUE

FOSTER AND TRANSPORT GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES

Cane Rosso Rescue Introduction

Cane Rosso Rescue (the “Rescue”) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations to our Rescue may be tax deductible. We primarily serve Texas, but we do accept Vizlas, German Shorthaired Pointers, English Pointers and mixes of the foregoing from surrounding states as our resources allow. We rely upon foster homes to shelter dogs joining our program. Most foster homes only foster 1 dog at a time; there is a limit of no more than 3 dogs placed in any one foster home. For each dog fostered in a volunteer’s home, we are able to pull one more dog from a shelter that is in danger of being euthanized.

We place priority on Texas dogs located in shelters and in danger of euthanasia. If space allows, we accept dogs in shelters in danger of being euthanized from surrounding states. If space allows, we accept dogs at facilities that are not in danger of being euthanized and finally, if space allows we accept dogs being surrendered by their owners in Texas and surrounding states. Because there is always another dog in need, we are always looking to expand our foster and volunteer base to accommodate as many dogs as possible.

Foster Home Requirements

Foster homes must go through the same application process that adoptive homes do – including an online application, reference checks and home visit. Foster homes are responsible for the care of their foster dog. It is expected that the foster home would care for the foster dog as they would their own dog. The foster ensures that the foster animal is fully vetted, microchipped, crate and housetrained, fed, watered, exercised, socialized, and receives some basic training. The Rescue provides necessary vet care for all foster animals within the program (more details below), heartworm preventative, a crate if necessary, and food if it is a financial burden for the foster home to provide food. We ask that foster homes make a minimum commitment of three months for each foster dog, as that is the average time our dogs are in a foster home. If a dog has medical issues or is a senior, then that time frame is increased to 6-18 months. We do our best to honor requests for certain characteristics, but please keep in mind that dogs joining the program are new to us and we are not yet familiar with the dog’s level of training or behavior in most situations. One of the volunteer tasks assigned to you as a foster home is to evaluate and report your foster dog’s behavior in different circumstances. Please also take the commitment seriously – a dog coming into our program will likely have been already moved between several houses, and we will limit a dog’s movement between homes as much as possible in our foster program, as well as in our adoptive placement.

The Rescue uses a database called Animal Shelter Manager (“ASM”) to house all of our information for current and past pets, fosters, adopters, vet records, microchip numbers and this is also the resource where a dog’s biographies and pictures are uploaded, which then appear on Petfinder. Fosters will send biography updates and picture updates to their area coordinators who will upload them into ASM as well as onto our website display feature. Please be sure and send biography updates and picture updates no later than every two weeks.

Foster Home Responsibilities

Foster families have many responsibilities. Sometimes, we need to clean off weeks, if not years, of neglect and dirt from our new foster dog. We need to take care of the physical needs of our charges and make right what others have allowed to go wrong. Foster dogs are required to stay with the Rescue for a minimum of 2 weeks before being adopted into a forever home to allow the Rescue enough time to evaluate the health, behavioral and social condition of the dog and understand what the Rescue needs to look for when evaluating potential adopters for approval.

Temperament Testing and Reporting

Underlying all of the challenges to preparing a dog for adoption from the Rescue, however, is our responsibility to evaluate and report the temperament of our foster dogs. The following are some examples of how you can safely evaluate your foster dog during his time with your family:

- Can you pet him all over his body? Handle his feet? His ears?
- Does he interact well with other dogs while off leash (in a secure area) or while on leash? If he is good with other dogs, what types of dogs has he had an opportunity to meet? Puppies, seniors, active, mellow, male, female, big, small?
- Has he met any other type of small animal? For example, a cat, birds, ferrets...?
- Is he tolerant of being approached and handled by family members, strangers, men, kids, women?
- How does he react to noises in your home? Is he easily spooked or put on alert?
- Does he guard resources? In other words, is he possessive of toys, treats, food or other resources, including you or members of your family?

It is very important to evaluate your foster dog in as many new situations as possible in a safe manner. You should include this descriptive information in your foster dog's biography, so that the Coordinator can determine which of our many dogs best suits the prospective adopters and families can focus on dogs that are likely to be a good match for their circumstances and lifestyle. Please update the Coordinator with 1-2 photographs of the dog every 7-10 days, and update any information that you think would be helpful for a potential adoptive family to know each time you send new pictures. Additionally, you should immediately report any behavior that would be considered problematic, including but not limited to difficulty house training, destructive behavior, fearful behavior, human or dog aggressive behavior, escaping the yard or crate, or excessive barking to your Coordinator. Your Coordinator can help you determine if your foster dog might need additional medical care or professional training or if a special home may be needed for your foster dog.

The number one reason that dogs are returned to the Rescue is miscommunication between fosters, coordinators and applicants resulting in the applicant not being appropriate for the dog, or the dog not being what the applicant expects. We cannot always predict every scenario or situation, but we must, as foster homes, expose our foster dogs to many, many situations and environments and test their behavior repeatedly. Our adoptive homes rely heavily upon our global expertise and specific hands-on experience with the dogs. They trust that we will send them a good dog – or at least one that they are fully informed about. They have every right to expect that and nothing less.

Medical Care

Of utmost importance to the Rescue is ensuring that we adopt out healthy dogs, and a significant amount of the Rescue's resources go to providing basic, and sometimes extensive, medical care to the foster dogs in the program. The Rescue relies on foster families to assist in providing this medical care by having the foster family arrange for a veterinary examination as soon as practicable after the dog has been accepted into the program. Foster homes should be proactive in making sure their foster dog is vetted, chipped and is ready for adoption.

Upon taking possession of a foster dog, the Rescue will provide, or cause to be provided, all available medical information, including any shelter records or past medical records. The foster family will coordinate scheduling veterinary visits and medical care with the Coordinator and approved veterinary clinics and hospitals. Please note that prior written approval for any and all veterinary care is required. The Rescue is happy to cover all approved medical expenses incurred by a foster family, but may ask the foster family to pay for any unapproved medical expenses, which will be the sole responsibility of the foster family.

Prior to adopting a dog from the Rescue, the dog must be spayed/neutered, heartworm tested, have a current rabies vaccination, and have all other medical needs addressed. If there are any questions about the health of your foster dog or whether it is ready for adoption, please confirm with your Coordinator.

Please remember that arranging for medical care is the foster home's responsibility; do not rely upon someone else to do it for your foster dog. Your Coordinator will do whatever he or she can to assist in coordinating vet visits, etc., but the Rescue relies on our foster families to make sure that each dog in the program receives the medical care that it needs. Be sure that your Coordinator has a copy of all of your foster dog's vet records and the microchip number, and that you also keep copies of the records to give to the adopter.

Attendance at Local Rescue Events

Foster homes are encouraged, but not required to attend adoption events in their area. A successful foster home will place a priority on promoting their dog – by having them at events, updating their bio, either taking or arranging to have taken great pictures and answering quickly and responsively to inquiries from applicants. Please, also do your best to respond quickly and keep your Coordinator updated – remember this person is a volunteer as well, and likely is fostering a dog in their home in addition to the added administrative responsibilities. Please, also do your best to respond quickly to local rescue event notifications and invitations and keep your Coordinator updated on your plans for attendance. Respecting each other's time commitments and working together is essential for the Rescue's continued success in rescuing as many dogs in need as possible.

Dog Parks, Doggie Day Care and Boarding

The dogs in the care of the Rescue are often high energy and enjoy socialization. The Rescue understands that, especially when the foster family is gone a majority of the day, addressing these exercise and socialization needs can be challenging. Dog parks and doggie day care can be a great way to get your foster dog some play time. However, the Rescue does require that, prior to taking any foster dog to a dog park or doggie day care, the foster family get the prior written consent of the Rescue. There are numerous things that can go wrong at these types of places, including dog fights, having the foster dog escape, etc.,

and these can lead to injuries to members of the foster family, the foster dog, or other people and/or dogs, which increases the potential for liability and additional expenses. For these reasons, it is imperative that the Rescue know what types of establishments you wish to attend, and whether it is appropriate for the foster dog in your care to attend.

Please note that the Rescue will not cover the costs of attending dog parks or doggie day care, including daily fees or membership fees. Any injuries to a person or dog may be covered by the Rescue, depending on the circumstances. If the dog park or doggie day care was not approved in advance, the expenses will not be covered.

Boarding may be necessary if you have to go out of town or if a foster dog in your care has medical needs that require overnight stays. Prior to boarding your foster dog, the Rescue requires that you contact your Coordinator with the reason you wish to board your foster dog and obtain the Rescue's prior written consent for boarding. Even though the foster dog is in your possession, it is still the responsibility of the Rescue, and it is important for the Rescue to know where a foster dog is at all times. If you are leaving town and need a place for your foster dog to go, contact your Coordinator as soon as possible. The Coordinator can notify other volunteers about the need for a dog sitter, and finding an approved volunteer to dog sit will help save valuable funds the Rescue could use for medical treatment of another dog. If a dog sitter cannot be found, depending on the circumstances, the Rescue may pay for the costs of boarding.

Safety

The safety of the dogs in the Rescue's program is also very important. For this reason, foster families are required to keep a collar with the Rescue's contact information and the foster family's contact information on it, as well as all other identifying or medical tags (microchip tag, rabies tag, etc.). You are required to keep any fostered dog in your care safely confined in a fenced yard or kennel run or inside a house when the foster dog is not with you or a member of your family. At no time are you permitted to place a foster dog on a tie-out (in a yard, in front a store or restaurant, etc.). When you are not on your property, the foster dog must be kept on a leash at all times, or in a safely enclosed dog play area (with prior approval, mentioned above).

The Rescue recommends the use of a dog crate for confinement inside the house. This not only benefits the foster family (as it prevents accidents and chewing and other destructive behaviors), but it also provides an added benefit to a potential adopter. If you do not have a crate, or do not want to purchase one, the Rescue will provide one for you.

Adopting a Foster Dog

We understand that foster families fall in love with the amazing dogs that come into their homes, and there are times when a dog will be the perfect fit for the foster family to adopt. If you are thinking about adopting a dog that you are fostering, the Rescue would like to be informed about this consideration. You will be notified when an application has been submitted by a potential adopter for each dog that you foster. In the event you would like to make this dog a permanent member of your pack, please notify your Coordinator within 24 hours of receipt of the application. If you don't send this notification, the application review and adoption process will begin.

Please note that a lot of time and Rescue resources go into each dog that enters our program, and this notification of your intention to adopt will allow the Rescue to put these valuable resources towards another dog in need! The dog will still be fully vetted and healthy when the adoption contract is signed by you, but the Rescue will avoid the time and expense that goes into marketing your foster and preparing him or her for adoption.

Foster Checklist

When you get a new dog, you should confirm that you have done all of the following:

- Review the dog upon receiving it for any health issues and report to your Coordinator.
- Vetting completed and records/receipts and provided to your Coordinator; and
- Microchipped and number/manufacture provided to your Coordinator.

Once the dog has been with you for the 2 week minimum evaluation period, make sure you have done the following:

- Provided a picture and bio for the dog to your Coordinator and update biography and picture every two weeks until adoption;
- Communicated with the Coordinator about the dog's personality and any concerning behaviors that may need to be addressed; and
- Have paperwork ready for adoption – including a complete set of vet records/receipts.

These items are the foster home's responsibility. Do not rely on someone else reminding you to get these items completed.

TRANSPORT GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES

Transporting dogs welcomed into Cane Rosso Rescue is a valuable and greatly appreciated volunteer position! Please carefully read the following before each transport.

ALWAYS bring a Rescue collar with the Rescue's contact information and your contact information on it, a leash, crate and any other supplies you may need, depending on the length of the transport. For example, for transports that may take several hours, a water bowl and fresh water will be necessary to keep the dog hydrated and comfortable.

Crating a dog during transport is the safest and most secure way to assure he or she arrives safely. During any transport, the dog should be safely and securely confined in a crate, and should have adequate space, comfortable environmental conditions and good air quality. Unfamiliar dogs should not be transported together unless they are in separate crates. If it is necessary to stop and let a dog use the restroom, get water or get exercise, make sure the dog's collar fits properly and the leash is secured before letting the dog out of the vehicle.

Transport from a Shelter

When pulling a dog from a shelter for transport, it is likely that very little will be known about the dog's behavior and temperament, and it is even more likely that the dog is incredibly stressed and scared. Additionally, the shelter is our only source of information on the dog's current health, physical and mental state. If you have not pulled a dog from a particular shelter before, work with your Coordinator to make sure you have all necessary identification and paperwork to enable the shelter to release the dog to you. This may include your photo ID, proof of the Rescue's 501(c)(3) status, or authorization from the Rescue confirming that you are a volunteer and that you have permission to take possession of the dog.

Please request any and all available medical records the shelter may have, such as vaccinations administered by the shelter, spay/neuter records, rabies tags and veterinary notes on the condition of the dog while it was in the shelter. This not only gives the Rescue an idea of what still needs to be done, but prevents the Rescue from incurring unnecessary veterinary expenses.

Transport from a Foster Home or Surrendering Owner

When a foster dog is transported to a new foster home, or from a surrendering owner, the Rescue hopes to have a little more information about the dog's transport needs and how to keep him/her most comfortable during transport, but the same precautions should always be taken to insure safety.

Again, please request any and all available medical records the foster home or surrendering owner may have. While the Rescue uploads electronic copies of all veterinary records received while the dog is in our care, it is preferable to have the original paperwork stay with the dog so that it may be given to the adopting family. We will request that a surrendering owner email us any veterinary records in their possession, but any available original paperwork is helpful to the Rescue.

Out of State Transport

When the Rescue intakes, fosters or adopts a dog from or to another state, the Rescue wants to make sure applicable laws regarding pet transport for every state on the route are followed, which usually are written by state departments of agriculture and/or health. All states require rabies vaccinations for dogs before interstate travel. Most states also require a health certificate for each animal - which are

generally valid for 10 days, as well as anything else medically necessary to ensure the safety of the dog and any pets that come in contact with the dog during transport. The vet exam for the health certificate will give the Rescue a professional opinion on whether the dog appears to be free of disease. The shelter should provide details on any known exposure and this information should be given to the vet performing the health certificate exam.

During the Trip:

All other policies and procedures noted above should be followed, including the use of crates, making sure the dog is wearing proper identification on a collar and kept on a leash at all times when not secured in a crate, and making sure any available copies of health records, behavior assessments and any other relevant paperwork is requested from the shelter or previous owner and given to the next transport volunteer or foster when you arrive at your transport destination.

Additionally, water should be available at all times, or at least provided every four hours. Those water stops will also give you a chance to observe the dog and allow him or her to rest, which should take place every four to six hours. Clean enclosures as often as necessary to prevent the dog from getting dirty, and plan ahead to ensure safety and prevent escapes in case you need to remove him or her to do so. Don't fast a dog (especially young ones) in an attempt to limit elimination or vomiting during travel; nutritional needs may even be increased. Make sure the transport vehicle has proper ventilation and climate control in the areas of the vehicle where the dog will be kept during the transport.

Should any questions, concerns or issues arise during transport, notify your Coordinator or the Transport Coordinator and follow whatever instructions he or she may give you. The Rescue is extremely grateful for the time and energy that transport volunteers devote to helping save so many dogs!

IF A DOG IS LOST DURING TRANSPORT, IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE RESCUE!!!

SIGNATURE PAGE

I, _____, have read and understand the [Foster Guidelines] [Transport Guidelines] and hereby agree to abide by the same while volunteering with Cane Rosso Rescue.

VOLUNTEER:

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

RESCUE:

CANE ROSSO RESCUE
a Texas non-profit corporation

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Authorized Representative