

LAKE COUNTRY SPCA

ADOPTION QUESTIONNAIRE

FACTS ABOUT ADOPTING SHELTER ANIMALS

Have you every adopted a shelter animal before? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

What is your primary reason for adopting an animal?

Companion Guard dog Hunting Barn Cat Other

Animals are accepted from all sources including previously owner, stray, abandoned or homeless. Some animals have lived in abusive or neglectful circumstances and will need both training and time to help them.

Although we screen both medically and behaviorally every animal that is placed here, certain types of problems will not demonstrate themselves until the animal is in a home situation or a specific period has lapsed (as in the incubation of certain viruses) There is always some risk in adopting any animal from a shelter . \_\_\_\_\_

Shelters bring out extremes in animals, and so it's difficult to judge them based on that first meeting. If an animal is cowering in the corner or barking ferociously when you meet them it doesn't mean they don't like you, they are scared!!

Give them time to adapt. This is one of the most important things to keep in mind to give both of you the best chance of making the adoption stick. The first few days (or even weeks) might not be smooth sailing. Every animal reacts to being in a shelter differently, but it's a stressful situation for just about every animal. Your pet may be jumpy when you bring them home, or they may be shy and reticent about interacting. They may whine, or pace, or have accidents, or they may just sleep and sleep. Your pet is coming from a shelter, where there's a different routine and set of rules. It typically takes about a month for a dog to fully relax and start to adapt to new routines. Experienced adopters will often tell you that they didn't really see their dog's true personality emerge until they were home for a few weeks, or even longer. Try and maintain routines and training for this early period and it's likely your dog will settle in beautifully.

When an animal is in a home for a while some behavioral issues may arise (like separation anxiety chewing, etc. etc.). Are you prepared to handle these issues. YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

Ease into it. Try to keep in mind that most animals will need an adjustment or decompression period as they settle in their new home. In those first days, experts advise being as calm and relaxed as possible (which may require a one-on-one chat with your kids before the dog

arrives), as well as limiting visitors- your family are going to be anxious to play with a new family pet, but now is not the time to host meet-and-greets with the neighborhood because this may only heighten the anxiety for your pet.

It's important to make sure that you commit to the responsibilities of owning an animal and make sure that you're in it for the life of your pet? AGREE\_\_\_ DISAGREE\_\_\_

Take into account Work obligations, the size of your living space, your appetite for walking, training, and possibly grooming. If you work long hours and find it hard to break away during the day, a puppy is probably not for you because of the amount of time and constant attention they demand.

When adopting a puppy are you aware that the cute little 5lb puppy is going to grow to be a 50+lb "puppy"? YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_. They are more destructive at an older age. It is also a "State Law" when you adopt an animal under the age of 6 months you will need to get the animal spayed/neutered and you will have to pay the cost yourself.

We have an obligation and desire to adopt our animals to "Forever" homes and not be brought back to the shelter.

Do you wish to continue with this adoption or, after reading all of this do you feel you need to think about the obligation a little more? YES\_\_ NO\_\_

How long have you lived at your address? \_\_\_\_YEARS \_\_\_\_MONTHS

Residence Type? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you own or rent your home? OWN \_\_\_\_ RENT \_\_\_\_

Are you planning to move anytime soon? YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

If you have to move unexpectedly, would you make it a priority to find housing that accepts animals? YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

If you rent does your landlord allow pets? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a Fenced yard? YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

Have you had pets in the past? YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

If so, what happened to them?

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have pets now? YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

Are your current pets spayed/neutered? YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

Have you ever adopted from us? YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

If so, do you still have this pet? YES \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Are all adults in the household aware that you are adopting a dog? YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

If you have small children, will they have adult supervision when the child & animal interact at all times? YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

Are you sure that this is the right dog for children in the home? YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

How many hours per day will the dog be left alone? \_\_\_\_\_

Will the animal be kept indoors or outdoors when alone? Indoors\_\_ Outdoors\_\_

Where will your pet spend most of its time? \_\_\_\_\_

When outside, how will your pet be housed or confined?

\_\_\_\_\_

We do not adopt a dog to anyone who will keep the dog tied out on a chain!

Where will the animal sleep at night:? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a crate or safe isolation area for your pets in your absence? YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

Would you adopt a dog that is not known to be housebroken? YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

Do you plan on attending obedience classes with your new dog? YES\_\_\_\_NO\_\_\_\_

Are you financially prepared to provide your pet with annual vet care? YES\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_

You understand that the adopter is responsible for all veterinary care and medical bills of the adopted pet? YES\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_

The animal may live 15+ years, what would you do with your pet if you could no longer care for them: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you aware of your community's animal ordinances, leash laws, and number of animals you may own? YES\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_

Are you or anyone in your family allergic to animals? YES\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_

Are you physically able to care for an animal? (jumping, pulling on a leash, cats getting under your feet, etc) YES\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_

What would you do if the dog grew to be bigger than you expected?

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Under what circumstances would you not keep the Animal?

\_\_Divorce \_\_Illness \_\_Moving \_\_New Baby \_\_New Job \_\_Housetraining problem.

\_\_Chewing \_\_Barking \_\_Digging \_\_Allergy \_\_Shedding \_\_Grew bigger

\_\_Illness \_\_Kids ignoring animal \_\_Pet's didn't get along \_\_Not obedient enough

\_\_Other \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_Would not give up for any of the above.

Would you allow an inspection of your home by a rescue volunteer? \_\_YES \_\_No

I hereby affirm that I have answered the questions truthfully. I completely understand the lifetime obligations I need to adopt the following animal:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Log# \_\_\_\_\_

Name Printed: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature