

ANIMAL INTAKE POLICY

Effective September 2024

Indian Rivers Humane Society (IRHS) houses animals in foster homes awaiting adoption, and maintains a feral cat colony. Without a physical shelter, we are limited in our ability to house animals based on available foster homes which fluctuates in numbers and ability to house dogs or cats.

When a foster home is available, IRHS obtains animals in the following manner:

- 1. Received from Another Virginia Releasing Agency. Since our area of service includes King William, King & Queen and Essex Counties, we pull from the King William Regional Animal Shelter and the Tappahannock-Essex County Animal Shelter.
- 2. Surrendered by Owner. This is limited to owners who previously adopted the animal from us, and can no longer care for it.
- 3. Stray or Abandoned. This is limited to cats, and they are usually classified as feral. The cats are placed in a feral colony after being altered. Occasionally, the situation is a mother cat and kittens, and the kittens may be put through our adoption program. Also occasionally, the feral cat is found to be not feral and is adopted out. We do encourage the public to contact their Municipal Shelter to report the animal and to turn it in.

We do <u>not</u> accept animals:

- 1. From owners who did not adopt the animal from us.
- 2. Seized lawfully by an Animal Control Officer, Law Enforcement Officer, or Humane Investigator.
- 3. Involved in a Bite Case Quarantine.
- 4. From out-of-state Releasing Agencies.
- 5. When there is no available foster home.

| APPROVED BY: | |
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| Benjamin Shumaker | 12/12/2024 |
| Benjamin Shumaker, President IRHS | Date |