

## **Louisa Humane Society (LHS) Intake Policy**

The mission of the Louisa Humane Society is to improve the quality of life for the homeless and abandoned animals of Louisa County; and to provide a clean, safe environment for these unwanted animals while making every effort to place adoptable animals into new, loving, responsible homes. LHS is a foster-based rescue and does not operate as a permanent refuge for unadoptable animals. All pets are accepted on a case-by-case basis.

- The final decision regarding the intake of a dog will be made by the President and Vice President of Fosters, who constitute the Intake Committee.
- LHS only accepts pets deemed to be adoptable by the Intake Committee. All pets are accepted on a case-by-case basis. Criteria used by the Intake Committee include the age, health, and temperament of the pet, available space in foster homes, LHS's financial situation, and availability of approved adopters.
- LHS does not accept stray dogs found by private individuals under any circumstances.
- Pets must be directly referred by an animal shelter, veterinarian or third party rescue organization and in need of rescue assistance.
- Pets previously adopted from LHS may be returned subject to the terms of the Adoption Contract signed at the time of the adoption and at the discretion of the Intake Committee.
- Pets with serious or permanent health and/or behavior problems are often not adoptable and may not be eligible for LHS's adoption program.
- LHS volunteers are not permitted to initiate intake of a pet on LHS's behalf without the express approval of the Intake Committee.

Intake procedures and policies are determined by the LHS Board of Directors and may be reviewed periodically at the Board's discretion.