**Sympathetic Animal Rescue**

**Intake Policies**

**Intake:**

1. Upon intake each animal will be assessed as to health condition. Medical and special needs are to be noted. Please ensure the care taker is not only aware of these needs but is knowledgeable and competent. We do not want animals placed in the care of anyone who cannot carry out the duties and responsibilities of caring for the animal.
2. Records are to be placed and stored for each animal by category. Every record needs to have a copy.
3. Each animal is to be documented on a spreadsheet and all medical information is to be entered. Please use the rescue spreadsheet and enter in all the information.

**Feral Animals:**

Feral animals are to be quarantined until seen by a veterinarian. Under no circumstances should the feral animal be handled by caretakers upon intake.

**Owner Surrenders:**

Will be taken occasionally upon the rescue director’s decision. All animals adopted out prior from Neonatal and Domesticated Feral Animal rescue are to be given priority. We always take back our prior adopted out animals. Please notify the director immediately if an owner is wishing to return. The owner is to surrender all vet forms in their possession with the animal.

**Please note:** An owner surrender form is required per each animal. If an owner is surrendering multiple animals multiple forms are required.

**Other agency intake:**

Each animal coming from another organization will be determined by the rescue director. No animals are to be accepted into the rescue without the rescue director’s approval. The rescue director is the only individual who may authorize intake.

**Sick Animals:**

Notify the rescue director immediately if any animal appears to be sick or have medical issues otherwise unknown. The rescue does take in special cases and sick animals occasionally. These animals already have been given approval by the rescue director.

**No Kill**

We are a no kill rescue. This means euthanasia will only be considered if an animal is suffering greatly or cannot be medically saved. We will also euthanize animals that have aggression that is genetic or cannot be resolved with rehabilitation or training. We take in strays and feral animals and do our best to save them all. Euthanasia is only used as a last resort.

**Limitations:**

The rescues availability consists of volunteers and fosters. Since this rescue has no facility intake is extremely limited. Availability fills up quickly. Unfortunately, we must not accept any animal that we do not have placement for. If there is not a committed foster we will not accept the animal.

**Animals we will not accept**

Any hybrid animal we will not accept. Our intake is limited to dogs and cats. We do not accept wild animals, nor animals that could be crossed with a non-domesticated animal. We do not accept small animals or pets that are not dogs or cats. We do not accept farm animals other than dogs and cats.

**Strays:**

All stray animals are to be handles according to Virginia’s policies in regards to strays. Any found animal will not be taken by any individual person until:

1. They have reported the animal to the county.
2. Every effort is made to find the owner.
3. The stray hold has expired and the finder is considered the legal owner of the animal.
4. Any other stray animals that are found or trapped, will be reported to animal control as found. And all laws will be followed with in accordance. Every effort will be made to find the animal’s owner.

Once the animal stray hold has expired, and the owner cannot be found, then the rescue can proceed to help find the animal a new home starting with completing all medical needs this animal has. As stated before we need to ensure all laws are followed prior to assisting with any and all stray animals.

**Questions**

If you have any further questions please reach out and ask! The rescue director is very hands on and willing to answer any questions.