

Pet Survivorship Program Guidelines

Many friends of Great Plains SPCA who choose to make charitable contributions by bequest to the organization also ask about the possibility of entrusting their cat(s) and/or dog(s) to the care of the organization after their death.

While our first recommendation is that you identify a trusted and willing friend or family member to care for your pet after your death, we recognize that this alternative is not always possible.

Therefore, we have adopted the following guidelines to help pet guardians as they prepare their wills and consider their charitable giving.

POLICY

Because Great Plains SPCA is continually faced with an inexhaustible supply of homeless dogs and cats needing new homes through our Adoptions Program, people wishing to surrender their cats or dogs generally must wait a few months before space is available. *In recognition of donors who make charitable bequests or provide irrevocable trusts to Great Plains SPCA, we will waive the usual waiting period.*

For the benefit of all animals taken into our Adoptions Program, it is important that charitable bequest donors who wish to leave their cats and/or dogs to Great Plains SPCA follow these essential guidelines:

1. The Adoptions Program is limited to cats and dogs. Cats and dogs will be adopted out through Great Plains SPCA.
- 2.
3. Please be sure that your cat or dog is current on all required vaccinations, and that you keep their veterinary records with your other important documents.
4. Great Plains SPCA provides physical examinations, vaccinations and spaying/neutering for all our adoptable animals but, to keep costs down for Great Plains SPCA and the adoptive family, you are required to take care of these requirements before your animal comes to Great Plains SPCA.
5. In every instance, Great Plains SPCA considers what is best for the animals. For this reason, Great Plains SPCA will care for animals as long as they are physically healthy or until they are adopted. However, if the animal(s) start to significantly deteriorate and can no longer be made comfortable with an acceptable quality of life, euthanasia must be considered. This happens very rarely at Great Plains SPCA. The decision to euthanize an animal at the shelter rests solely with the staff of Great Plains SPCA.

6. In the unlikely event that your pet is deemed to have severe behavioral issues which pose a risk to the well-being of the pet, other animals, or individuals, or if the pet is found to be unmanageable under standard care conditions, the pet may be excluded from participation in the Pet Survivorship Program. Severe behavioral issues may include, but are not limited to, aggression toward people or other animals or destructive tendencies that cannot be reasonably addressed through behavioral rehabilitation or modification efforts that Great Plains SPCA provides. The decision to exclude a pet from the program will be made at the sole discretion of Great Plains SPCA, based on a thorough assessment of the pet's behavior, medical history, and suitability for placement in a new environment.

It is our belief that cats and dogs belong in loving homes and not in a shelter. Therefore, all cats or dogs bequeathed to Great Plains SPCA will be put up for adoption. Rest assured, Great Plains SPCA's Adoptions Program goes the extra distance to match an animal's temperament and requirements with an adoptive family's lifestyle. Animals who are taken from their own homes sometimes suffer from stress and anxiety. The staff and volunteers of Great Plains SPCA make every effort to alleviate these problems through personal attention, enrichment and socialization techniques.

BEQUEST COMMITMENT

As a non-profit organization, Great Plains SPCA must continually seek donations to fund programs. Costs to shelter, feed, and provide medical care for the homeless animals in our care are substantial. *Therefore, it is necessary that charitable bequest donors make the financial provision of **\$10,000 for up to two animals** and **\$5,000 per each additional animal**. Please note that there is no money due upon signing up for this program. Funds will go to Great Plains SPCA at the time your estate is settled.*

PROCEDURES

Great Plains SPCA's Adoptions Program is not one where animals are simply placed in the first available home. Every step is taken to ensure that each adoption is a permanent match. If you wish to bequeath your cat or dog to Great Plains SPCA, please take care to complete the following steps to ensure their smooth and successful transition into life with a new adopter.

1. Ask your attorney to state specifically in your will that you wish to entrust your cat(s) or dog(s) to the Great Plains Society for the Prevention of Animal Cruelty Adoptions Program.
2. Inform the executor of your estate, family members, and/or friends that you wish to have your dog and/or cat cared for by Great Plains SPCA so that the transfer of your animal(s) can be accomplished as soon as possible.
3. Complete the Cat and/or Dog Relinquishment Questionnaires on the following pages. These forms provide us with important information about medical history, lifestyle, preferences, and behavioral characteristics in order to help our staff find the best possible match with a new family. Please fill out one complete questionnaire per animal.
4. Ask your attorney to incorporate into your will the following suggested language for making a charitable contribution to Great Plains Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Your gift may be unrestricted, or designated to the Adoptions Program, or any other program that interests you.

I give to Great Plains Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, a non-profit 501(c)(3), currently headquartered at 5428 Antioch Dr, Merriam, KS 66202, TIN 05-0552529, the sum of _____dollars (or, if insurance policies, land or other property, please describe). This gift is unrestricted and may be designated at the discretion of the organization's leadership. It is Great Plains SPCA's policy to assess a 10% overhead recovery fee to all bequests made to Great Plains SPCA (this is charged against the actual bequest and is not an extra charge)

5. When your will, Letter of Intent (located on Great Plains SPCA's website) and Relinquishment Questionnaire(s) are complete, please notify Great Plains SPCA

in writing of your plans. It must include a copy of the Relinquishment Questionnaire with your letter, to ensure that Great Plains SPCA has current information about your cat(s) or dog(s) when they come to us. Please direct your correspondence to: Great Plains SPCA, ATTN: Planned Giving, 5428 Antioch Dr, Merriam, KS 66202, or to donations@greatplainsspca.org.

If you have questions or would like additional information on charitable giving by bequest or on Great Plains SPCA's Adoptions Program, please contact the Planned Giving Team at (913) 808-3316 or by emailing donations@greatplainsspca.org.

**Thank you for planning for the lifetime care of your animals in the event of your death.
We appreciate how important and personal these plans are, and we thank you
for trusting Great Plains SPCA to find your cat and dog family animals their next home – and
to provide the best care for them until we do.**



Pet Survivorship Program - CAT Relinquishment Questionnaire

The goal of Great Plains SPCA is to place each cat and kitten into an adoptive home. The information you provide on this form will help us to match each kitty with an adopter. It will also help us to determine the needs your kitty will have during his or her stay with Great Plains SPCA.

Please complete one form per cat being surrendered.

Guardian Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Mailing Address (if different from above): _____

Best Contact Number(s): _____

Executor of Estate: _____

Other Important Contacts: _____

Bequest Amount to Great Plains SPCA (*always confidential*): _____

GENERAL HISTORY

Cat's Name: _____ DOB/Approximate Age: _____

Cat's Breed/Coat Type: _____ Cat's Color: _____

Sex? Male Female Unsure

Spayed or neutered? Yes No Unsure

Microchipped? Yes No Unsure

Declawed? No Yes - all Yes - front only

If yes, when was the declaw procedure? As a kitten As an adult Unsure

How long have you had this cat? _____

Where did you acquire this cat?

Found as a stray

Friend / Relative

Pet store

Breeder

Free-to-good-home ad

Born in my home

Another shelter

Other: _____

MEDICAL HISTORY

Do you have a regular veterinarian? No Yes - Which vet _____

Veterinarian Phone: _____

Has your cat had any of the following tests?

Feline Leukemia Yes No Unsure

Date & result: _____

F I V Yes No Unsure

Date & result: _____

Does your cat have any medical problems or injuries that would require special attention or a special diet? Yes No Unsure If yes, please explain: _____

DIETARY HABITS

Which brand(s) of dry cat food does your cat eat? _____

Do they eat canned food? No Yes - Which brand? _____

PERSONALITY PROFILE

Check all traits that best describe your cat's personality:

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Activity level | <input type="checkbox"/> Very Active | <input type="checkbox"/> Normal | <input type="checkbox"/> Calm |
| Interaction with family | <input type="checkbox"/> Affectionate | <input type="checkbox"/> Independent | <input type="checkbox"/> Fearful |
| Interaction with strangers | <input type="checkbox"/> Affectionate | <input type="checkbox"/> Independent | <input type="checkbox"/> Fearful |
| Interest in toys | <input type="checkbox"/> All the time | <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes | <input type="checkbox"/> Not interested |

Any other personality information to help us really get to know your cat:

LIFESTYLE & HOME LIFE

Where does your cat live? (please check all that apply)

- In Home Office Outdoors In a barn In a garage

If indoor only, does your cat try to escape? Yes No

Has your cat had access to the outdoors? Yes No Unsure

Has your cat ever lived outdoors? Yes No Unsure

If yes, when? _____

For how long? _____

Why did your cat live outdoors? _____

Where/under what circumstances? _____

Does your cat get along with other cats? Yes No Unsure

If yes, what type: Littermate(s) Other kittens Other adults

If you are relinquishing more than one cat:

How long have these cats lived together? _____

How would you describe their relationship to each other?

Do you consider them to be bonded? Yes No Unsure

If yes, please explain why:

Does your cat get along with dogs? Yes No Unsure

If yes, what type: Small Medium Large

What type of personality/temperament did the dog(s) have and how did they interact with your cat?

Does your cat get along with children? Yes No Unsure

What age(s) of children has your cat been around?

Infant/Toddler (0-3) Pre-School (3-5) School Aged (5-13)
 Teens (13-18) None

Your cat seems most comfortable with (*check all that apply*):

Women Children Senior Citizens Other animals
 Men Teenagers Loves everyone Other: _____

LITTER BOX HABITS

Does your cat have access to a litter box in the house?

No (*Skip the rest of this section*) Yes - How many? _____

Are there other animals in your home? Yes No

If other cats, how many cats share a litter box(s)? _____

Does your cat use the litter box consistently? Yes (*Skip the rest of this section*) No

Sometimes - If sometimes, how often does your cat make a mistake? _____

Please describe the accidents:

Urinates outside of the box Urinates on clothing Urine marks in house
 Defecates outside of the box Other: _____

If your cat goes outside of the box, do they most often go right beside the box? Yes No

Please describe: _____

How often do you clean your cat's litter box? Daily Every few days Weekly Rarely

What type of litter box do have? Covered Uncovered Automatic scooping

What type of litter do you use?

- Scented Clumping Pine Pellets Crystals
 Unscented Non-Clumping Newspaper Pellets Other: _____

When did the litter box problems begin?

- Recently Within 30 days Within the past year Ongoing issue

If you have multiple cats, have you witnessed this cat go outside of the box? Yes No

Can you think of an event (a move, new pet, change of litter box style or type of litter, new baby, traveling and not home much, etc.) that may have influenced/started the poor litter box habits?

Please describe what steps you have taken to correct this problem:

Has your cat been examined by a veterinarian for his/her litter box issues to rule out any medical problems contributing to not using the litter box? Yes No

If yes, was a urine sample collected and examined by the vet? Yes No

If yes, what was the diagnosis/outcome? _____

Is there anything else a future adopter should know about your cat? Fears, likes, dislikes? Please be as specific as possible to help us find the best next home.

Please report significant changes in this information
to Great Plains SPCA's Planned Giving Team
at donations@greatplainssPCA.org or (913) 808-3316.
Please feel free to attach additional information regarding your cat(s).

Thank you for thinking of Great Plains SPCA.



Pet Survivorship Program - DOG Relinquishment Questionnaire

The goal of Great Plains SPCA is to place each dog and puppy into an adoptive home. The information you provide on this form will help us to match each pup with an adopter. It will also help us to determine the needs your dog will have during his or her stay with Great Plains SPCA.

Please complete one form per dog being surrendered.

Guardian Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Mailing Address (if different from above): _____

Best Contact Number(s): _____

Executor of Estate: _____

Other Important Contacts: _____

Bequest Amount to Animal Friends Alliance (*optional and always confidential*): _____

GENERAL HISTORY

Dog's Name: _____ DOB/Approximate Age: _____

Dog's Breed: _____ Dog's Color: _____

Sex? Male Female Unsure

Spayed or neutered? Yes No Unsure

Microchipped? Yes No Unsure

How long have you had this dog? _____

Where did you acquire this dog?

Found as a stray

Friend / Relative

Pet store

Breeder

Free-to-good-home ad

Born in my home

Another shelter

Other: _____

MEDICAL HISTORY

Do you have a regular veterinarian? No Yes - Which vet _____

Veterinarian Phone: _____

Has your dog ever bitten anyone? No Yes If yes, please explain:

Does your dog have any medical problems or injuries that would require special attention or a special diet? Yes No Unsure If yes, please explain:

DIETARY HABITS

Which brand(s) of dry dog food does your dog eat? _____
Do they eat canned food? No Yes - Which brand? _____

BEHAVIORAL HISTORY

Does your dog have accidents in the house? No Yes
If yes, how often? Daily A few times a week A few times a month
If yes, does the dog: Urinate Defecate Both

Is your dog crate-trained? No Yes
If yes, how long did your dog spend in a crate each day? _____

How long is your dog left alone, without people?
 Never 1-3 hours 4-8 hours 9-12 hours More than 12 hours

When alone, is your dog: Outside Free in the house Confined to a room Crated

When left alone, does your dog: Destroy household items Urinate Defecate
 Bark Cry Try to escape None

If your dog destroys household items, check all that apply: Chews woodwork/walls
 Chews windows/doors Chews furniture Chews clothing/shoes Chews toys
 Other (please describe): _____

Does your dog have any dislikes or fears? _____

Does your dog have any "bad" habits? No Yes, please describe:

Has your dog ever shown aggression toward any people or other animals? No Yes
If yes, please explain and be specific:

Does your dog know any commands? No Yes, please list: _____

Have you worked with a trainer for obedience training or to address any specific behaviors?
 No Yes

If yes, please list the trainer(s) used and the behaviors learned or addressed. Please include contact information for the trainer(s): _____

Have you done any training with your dog yourself? No Yes
If yes, what method(s) of training did you use? _____

How does your dog behave in the car? _____

What are your dog's favorite toys or games? _____

Does your dog get along with children? Yes No Unsure

What age(s) of children has your dog been around?

- Infant/Toddler (0-3) Pre-School (3-5) School Aged (5-13)
 Teens (13-18) None

Would you recommend your dog live with children in the future? No Yes

Your dog seems most comfortable with (*check all that apply*):

- Women Children Senior Citizens Other animals
 Men Teenagers Loves everyone Other: _____

Has your dog lived with cats? No Yes

Would you recommend your dog live with cats in the future? No Yes

Has your dog lived with other dogs? No Yes

If so, describe the other dogs: _____

Would you recommend your dog live with dogs in the future? No Yes

If you are relinquishing more than one dog:

How long have these dogs lived together? _____

How would you describe their relationship to each other?

Do you consider them to be bonded? Yes No Unsure
If yes, please explain why_____

Is there anything else a future adopter should know about your dog? Please be as specific as possible to help us find the best next home.

Please report significant changes in this information
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