



## **VOLUNTEER GUIDELINES FOR FRIENDS OF ANIMALS OF NEA FILADELPHIA.**

- 1. Think SAFETY! Wear proper shoes and thick socks to protect your feet and ankles from dog chains, itchy plants, or sharp objects hidden in the grass. Wear strong pants like jeans that do not tear easily or can be pulled to cause you to lose your balance. Long sleeves protect your arms from bites, scratches, and itchy plants.**
- 2. Only walk the Dogs that you are physically stronger than! Some of our dogs – which our volunteers will introduce you- are strong dogs and should only be walked by volunteers with more experience. You should always ask whether you should walk some newly operated dogs or unvaccinated puppies.**
- 3. Be careful not to walk within 2 meters of another dog. If the dogs are not compatible, they will bite and fight and we do not have money for vet costs like this!**
- 4. The areas marked with red/white tape are not to be entered. They have been contaminated by virus and cannot be used for 5 months. Be very careful by avoiding these areas and keeping the dogs protected.**
- 5. When you return a dog to its place make sure his/her collar is tight enough so that it cannot escape. If it's way too tight then ask a senior volunteer to adjust it. BE VERY CAREFUL when you tie or untie a dog because this is the time that they usually escape and there will be a total chaos at the shelter.**
- 6. Besides dogwalking, there is always something else to do at the shelter. Ask a senior volunteer to give you a brush to do some grooming on the furry dogs or take a garbage bag around and pick-up the bottles and garbage that gets thrown inside our walls.**

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## **IMPORTANT SHELTER INFORMATION FOR VOLUNTEERS**

**Our existence in this space is at the day to day mercy of the Mayor and Town Council of Nea Filadelfia. We have very strict guidelines as to our purpose - to maintain a rescue, rehabilitation and re-homing facility for strays from within the boundaries of Nea Filadelfia only. This means that no volunteers can bring to the shelter any strays found outside of Nea Filadelfia. This is not being mean or cruel hearted, this is the reality of our situation. Also, this also means that any dog on the street in Nea Filadelfia cannot be brought to the shelter - only sick, injured, or too young to live on its own. There are many people within NF who feed and care for strays in their gardens and on their streets and these dogs should continue to live where they are.**

**Only the Shelter founders can approve dogs for the Shelter as there are many considerations involved with accepting a dog - is there any room for a new dog, its age, visible illnesses, injuries, potential viruses, extent of costs, and suitability for adoption.**

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**If you find a dog that needs help outside of Nea Philadelphia:**

- a) First take it to a Vet. Find out accurately the extent of the situation and be prepared to live with the consequences. You may have to foster it at your home and try and rehome it yourself.
- b) Call your Municipality to get the number of animal control or the Friends of Animals that may exist in your municipality. Be prepared to cover the costs of the vet service and any follow-up if there is no organization that works within your municipality.
- c) If the dog/cat is suitable for adoption, visit our website and find a list of websites and animal welfare groups whose purpose is to help you find a home for the dog/cat. Be diligent with your efforts and you will find it a home.
  
- d) There is no amount of volunteer hours or donations that you have made that can help you get around these rules. If the Mayor and any members of the Town Council find that we are accepting outside dogs it will jeopardize all of our existence here. We receive NO FUNDING from any government department or have any financial sponsors who give us money to maintain the shelter. Our costs are between 6,000e-7,000e each month and the Shelter founders and Senior Volunteers fundraise continuously to raise this money each month by holding Bazaars, selling T-Shirts, etc.

For any further questions email us at [adoptions@friendsofanimals-nf.com](mailto:adoptions@friendsofanimals-nf.com)

**[www.friendsofanimals-nf.com](http://www.friendsofanimals-nf.com)**