FVHA’s Pet Retention and Rehoming Program

Giving up an animal is a serious decision. If you are considering surrendering your pet, please contact us for help first. We have many resources to help you, from behavioral advice to assistance due to financial constraints. If you need to bring your animal to our shelter, we will always accept your animal. But for some animals, a non-shelter option is the best choice. When you explore non-shelter options for your animal, you can:

- Protect your animal from stress and possible illness in the shelter
- Find a great home for an animal we may not be able to place in our adoption program
- Maybe find a great way that you and your animal can stay together!

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Keeping Your Pet

Many people think they have to surrender a beloved animal to a shelter, even though they don’t want to. The problem might be a landlord who won’t allow the animal, a behavior issue that is causing problems, or just being able to afford an animal’s care in difficult times. We believe the best home for any animal is the home of someone who already loves them and can provide the necessary care. So we have many resources to help you keep your animal in your home.

Struggling With Your Animal’s Behavior?
Is your dog barking too much? Is your cat not using her litter box? You’re not in this alone. We have a variety of resources available to you to help you better address animal’s behavior issues.

Visit our website to view our online behavior resources.
Our website has tips for dealing with barking and separation anxiety, as well as litter box issues, at http://foxvalleypets.org/Resources.aspx. Check out the links under the “Dogs” and “Cats” sections.

Talk to our staff (It’s free!)
For help with behavior issues or concerns, call 920-733-1717 and leave a message for our staff. They will return your call as soon as possible.

Schedule an appointment with our canine behaviorist
For a small fee, our canine behaviorist will work one-on-one with you, your family, and your dog to help address problems you may be having.

Dog Manners Classes
Sign up for a class specifically designed to help great dogs learn basic manners and cues. Visit http://foxvalleypets.org/Services/Training_Classes.aspx for a listing of the classes offered.

Spay-Neuter Assistance Program
Spaying or neutering your animal can actually help reduce unwanted behaviors. FVHA offers a spay-neuter assistance program (S.N.A.P.) designed to meet the needs of low-income individual and families. The goal of this program is to decrease the number of unwanted animal litters by expanding sterilization services to clients with a demonstrated financial need. Visit http://www.foxvalleypets.org/Services/Charitable_Veterinary_Services.aspx for more information.

Need Pet-Friendly Housing?
Moving is stressful and the thought of giving up your animal because you’re moving only adds stress, which is why we have options for you!

Find a Pet-Friendly Place
You do not have to surrender your companion just because you are moving. Give yourself extra time to find a residence where animals are allowed. Find a short list of apartments allowing pets near Appleton here: http://www.rent.com/wisconsin/appleton-apartments/pet-friendly-39-27905. Your best option is to contact the rental office directly and ask for their policy on pets.
**Talk to Your Landlord**
Be honest and offer to introduce your animal(s). Many property owners will allow well-behaved animals, particularly if you behave responsibly. Providing your animal’s veterinary records, graduation certificate(s) from training classes, and references from past landlords can help to show a prospective landlord you are a responsible animal guardian.

**Can’t Afford Your Animal?**
If you think about the times when you struggled the most, maybe due to a sudden job loss, a medical emergency, or even losing a family member, the last thing you want to do is lose the companion who has stuck by your side through it all.

**Pet Food Pantry**
FVHA’s pet food pantry provides pet food for families struggling to provide for themselves and their animals. We understand the difficult decisions that individuals sometimes have to make in order to care for their animals. Individuals may receive pet food up to 10 times before we ask for a small donation in order to keep the food pantry running.

**Low Cost Veterinary Care**
Veterinary services can be expensive and vary greatly from clinic to clinic. So do your research, call around from clinic to clinic for a quote on the services you need. FVHA has a charitable Spay-Neuter Assistance Program and a Dental Assistance Program for low-income households. Visit [http://www.foxvalleypets.org/Services/Charitable_Veterinary_Services.aspx](http://www.foxvalleypets.org/Services/Charitable_Veterinary_Services.aspx) for more information.
Re-homing Your Pet

Re-homing Resources
Ask around to see if you know anyone who is looking for a new companion or take advantage of our Rehoming Listings section on our website. When it comes to meeting with potential adopters, be thorough and patient. Finding the right home takes time, but it’s worth it for your sake and the sake of your animal. Ask good open-ended questions to determine if your companion and the potential adopters are a good match. Ensuring that your companion animal is up-to-date on his/her vaccinations as well as spayed/neutered will make it easier for you to find a new home.

Re-homing Listings on FVHA’s website
FVHA offers a free listing for animals in our community needing new homes. Visit http://www.foxvalleypets.org/Services/Rehoming_Listings.aspx to use our free, web-based re-homing service. This webpage will allow you to give information about your companion animal and the type of home he or she is looking for. Be sure to include accurate contact information, so that individuals interested in adopting your animal can reach you. Please allow at least 48 hours for your submission to be posted to the website. If you find a match, please contact us to have your listing removed from the re-homing website.

Re-home on Your Own
Ask around to see if you know anyone (friends, family, co-workers, neighbors, etc.) who is looking for a new companion. The shelter environment can be very stressful for some animals, so re-homing from a familiar environment can be a great option for many animals. Please do not give your animal away "Free to a Good Home" as there are unscrupulous individuals who could harm your animal. Asking a reasonable fee may help deter such people.

On the next few pages are materials you can use when you are talking to someone who is interested in adopting your animal. With questions like these, you will learn a lot about whether this person can provide the right home for the animal you know so well.

Temporary Care for Your Animal
If you are looking for temporary care for your animal, talk with your friends, family members and veterinarian for recommendations on boarding or in-home pet sitting services. Make sure to leave detailed instructions for the care of your animal, including feeding and exercise schedules as well as emergency contact information.

Breed Rescues
If your animal is purebred, there may be a rescue group that is able to accept your animal into their organization for adoption. Each rescue’s policies are different, so ask questions! Contact FVHA at 920-733-1717 for more information on rescues we have partnered with.
Making the Match (dogs)
These questions encourage open, honest conversation with a potential adopter.

ABOUT THE ADOPTER
How many adults _____ and children _____ are in your home?
What are the ages of the children? __________
How many other animals have you had as an adult? ______
List: Name, Age, Breed, Spay/Neuter, Still Have
________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________
Where are they now?
________________________________________
How long did you have them?
________________________________________
How long will a new animal need to be left alone on a given day? ___________________
What behaviors do you not tolerate from your animals?
________________________________________
What behaviors did you find most challenging with your previous animal(s)?
________________________________________
What happened that you had to find a new home for the animal?
________________________________________
________________________________________
PREFERENCES
What interests you about this dog?
________________________________________
Why are you looking to adopt a dog?
________________________________________
How many hours will the dog be outside?
_________________
Where will you keep the dog:
1. When you are home? ____________________
2. When you are gone? ____________________
3. At night? ____________________
How do you plan on exercising your dog?
________________________________________
How do you plan on socializing your dog?
________________________________________
What are your thoughts on crate training?
________________________________________
________________________________________
DOG BEHAVIOR QUESTIONS
What dog behaviors would you like more information on? Chewing  Barking
Housetraining  Play Biting  Other ______________________
How do you plan on training your dog?
________________________________________
________________________________________
How comfortable are you with housetraining?
________________________________________
________________________________________
MULTIPLE ANIMAL QUESTIONS
How do you plan to introduce your new dog to your resident dog?
________________________________________
________________________________________
Cat to dog?
________________________________________
________________________________________
How much time do you plan on allowing your resident animal and the new animal to adjust?
________________________________________
What is your plan if the animals do not get along right way?
________________________________________
________________________________________
Making the Match (cats)
These questions encourage open, honest conversation with a potential adopter.

ABOUT THE ADOPTER
How many adults _____ and children _____ are in your home?
What are the ages of the children? __________
How many other animals have you had as an adult? __________
List: Name, Age, Breed, Spay/Neuter, Still Have
_______________________________________
_______________________________________
_______________________________________
_______________________________________
Where are they now?
_______________________________________
How long did you have them?
_______________________________________
How long will a new animal need to be left alone on a given day? _____________________
What behaviors do you not tolerate from your animals?
_______________________________________
_______________________________________
What behaviors did you find most challenging with your previous animal(s)?
_______________________________________
What happened that you had to find a new home for the animal?
_______________________________________
_______________________________________
PREFERENCES
What are you looking for in a cat?
_______________________________________
_______________________________________
_______________________________________
What drew you to this cat?
_______________________________________
_______________________________________
_______________________________________
Do you prefer a cat that is declawed? Why?
_______________________________________
_______________________________________
Do you plan on declawing? __________

CAT BEHAVIOR QUESTIONS
How long do you think it will take for your new cat to adjust to his/her new environment?
_______________________________________
How do you plan to handle any litterbox problems?
_______________________________________
_______________________________________
How do you feel about a cat who play bites?
_______________________________________
_______________________________________

MULTIPLE ANIMAL QUESTIONS
How do you plan to introduce your new dog to your resident dog?
_______________________________________
_______________________________________
Cat to dog?
_______________________________________
_______________________________________
How much time do you plan on allowing your resident animal and the new animal to adjust?
_______________________________________
What is your plan if the animals do not get along right away?
_______________________________________
_______________________________________
_______________________________________

ALLERGY QUESTIONS
Do you have allergies to any animals? ______
How do you plan to manage your allergies and a new animal?
_______________________________________
Adopter Information

Have the potential adopter fill this out

Name: ____________________________ Date: ______________
Address: __________________________
City/State/Zip: ______________________

Contact Information:
- Home Phone: ______________________
- Work Phone: ______________________
- Cell Phone: ______________________
- Email Address: ______________________

Occupation: ______________________
Employer: ______________________

Current living arrangement:
☐ I own my own home.
☐ I live with my parents.
☐ Do they know you are getting an animal? Yes______ No_____
☐ I rent.
- Describe your landlord’s pet policy:

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Veterinarian’s Name: ____________________________
Phone Number: ____________________________
How much do you plan on spending annually for vet care? __________

Alternate Contact ____________________ Relation: __________
Phone Number: ____________________ Email: __________

☐ I certify the above information is true and correct.
Signature of Adopter: ____________________________ Date: __________

*Disclaimer: This is not a binding document. FVHA cannot enforce violations of this agreement.
Surrendering Your Pet at FVHA

FVHA offers resources and education to help you maintain the treasured bond that you have with your animal companions. But, we do understand that there are circumstances that prevent you from being able to keep your animal and we are willing to help.

When you bring your animal in to FVHA for surrender, he or she will receive a health and behavior assessment. The following conditions may result in your animal’s inability to be placed into our adoption program:

- Aggression toward humans or other animals
- History of biting
- Cage or kennel regression
- Animal is a threat to itself or others
- Unable to safely house or handle
- Spraying
- Indiscriminate elimination
- Severe health problems

If we determine that your pet is not eligible for entrance into one of our placement programs, you will have the option of reclaiming your pet.

Please fill out a surrender profile on our website at http://www.foxvalleypets.org/Services/Surrender_Your_Pet.aspx. Completing this profile before coming into the shelter will save you time during your visit and allow you to give more information about your animal’s personality.

What to Bring With You:

- Any veterinary records you have.
- A photo ID such as a driver’s license.
- Any other items you’d like to donate for shelter use.

For everyone’s safety, all dogs must be leashed and we recommend that all cats are in carriers.

Hours for incoming animals at our shelter are: Monday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Wednesday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

We do ask for a surrender fee to help offset the cost of caring for your animal; however, if you cannot afford the fee please let the staff know and we will work with you. FVHA is a nonprofit organization that receives no government funding and is not affiliated with any national animal welfare organizations.

Fees:

- all animals within our service area (see next page): $30.00
- all animals outside our service area: $40.00
- a group charge for multiple animals: $50.00

If you would like to make an additional donation we suggest the following amounts: $50 for a dog, $40 for a cat, or $125 for a litter.
We have agreements with the following municipalities. They make up our service area:

- City of Appleton
- City of Menasha
- Town of Menasha
- City of Kaukauna
- Combined Locks
- Fox Valley Metro (Little Chute & Kimberly)
- Town of Grand Chute
- Village of Black Creek
- Town of Freedom
- City of Seymour
- Town of Neenah
- Wrightstown

Listed below are the unincorporated towns that fall under Outagamie County Sheriff and are within the FVHA service area:

- Town of Black Creek
- Town of Bovina
- Town of Buchanan
- Town of Center
- Town of Cicero
- Town of Dale
- Town of Deer Creek
- Town of Ellington
- Town of Hortonia
- Town of Kaukauna
- Town of Liberty
- Town of Maine
- Town of Maple Creek
- Town of Oneida
- Town of Osborn
- Town of Seymour
- Town of Vandebroek