

GUILFORD COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER, United Animal Coalition

4525 West Wendover Ave., Greensboro, NC 27409, Tele: (336) 297-5020

Animal Adoption Contract (form # GCAS 1001-rev 8.10.04)

Animal Code #: _____ Date: _____

Name (thereafter – “Adopter”): _____

Address (City,Zip): _____

Adoption Guidelines:

1. The adoption contract will be legally binding and specify that the agency has the right to inspect the pet's new home and is authorized to repossess the animal if that animal is not receiving adequate, human care, and treatment.
2. Any falsification or ommission of information on the adoption forms and contracts is grounds for adoption denial.
3. The Guilford County Animal Shelter will use written application and interview to learn as much as possible about the potential adoptee's lifestyle and knowledge of responsible pet ownership to match him / her with the appropriate animal for placement in a safe, permanent companion home. Criteria to be considered include breed, size, age, habits, and temperament. Adoption to homes where there are young children.
4. A photo ID is required for all adoptions.
5. Written or oral landlord approval is required for all adopters residing in a rental property.
6. Because of the potential for abandonment, no animals should be adopted to anyone living only temporarily in the community. Adopter's should be permanent residents who are prepared to give lifelong care for the animal.
7. All pets over the age of 4 months in the adoptee's home must be current on rabies vaccinations as required by North Carolina State Law.
8. Animals will not be adopted to homes where they will be placed on chains or ziplines.
9. All adopted animals will be given age appropriate vaccinations and a microchip before leaving the shelter.
10. All adoptions may be approved or refused by the Shelter Director or Designee.
11. An individual who has surrendered his pet to an animal shelter in the previous years is not eligible to adopt an animal.
12. No adoptions will be made to individuals who are disruptive or threatening, who appear to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol, who have been convicted of animal cruelty, or who appear to have impaired judgement.
13. No adoptions will be made to people known to hoard / collect animals.

The Adopter Agrees:

1. Not to keep the animal on leased or rented property where a “No Pets” policy is enforced.
2. To provide adequate fresh food and water, clean and dry shelter and daily exercise.
3. To obey all applicable laws governing control and custody of animals.
4. To register the animal with the appropriate County Animal Control Office or equivalent and to provide a safe collar with tags (personal identification tag, rabies tag, and if required a license tag).
5. To take the animal to a licensed veterinarian **within 5 days of adoption** for a physical checkup at my own expense.
6. To provide all medical care and treatment needed for the animal, this includes at least a yearly medical checkup, required vaccinations, and preventative heartworm medication.
7. To adopt the animal only as a personal pet / companion and not as a working animal or chained guard dog, and or ever to be used for research purposes.
8. To allow the GCAS Animal Control Division to visit my premises to ensure that the terms of this agreement have been kept.
9. To return the animal to the GCAS rather than abandon, sell, or otherwise transfer ownership of the animal. If for any reason I can no longer keep the animal or choose not to keep the animal, I will return the animal to the GCAS. I understand that I can be prosecuted for breach of contract if I sell or give the animal to any party other than the GCAS.
10. To hold the GCAS harmless from any veterinary fees incurred by or damage caused by the animal while it is in my care.
11. To pay costs, including attorney's fees, of the GCAS if the GCAS must take action against me or my representatives or agents to enforce any of the terms of this adoption contract.
12. To pay the non-refundable adoption fees set above and abide by the veterinary physical examination requirement as stated above.

UAC contract continued:

Spay / Neuter:

1. All adopted animals eight (8) weeks or older and a minimum of two (2) pounds must be sterilized.
2. Your new pet must be sterilized prior to adoption unless (i.e., medical or age prohibits) but must be sterilized when designated by the GCAS.
3. The animal remains the property of the Guilford County Animal Shelter until the animal has been spayed or neutered.

Refund:

A refund of the adoption fee and ONLY the adoption fee, may be available, but not guaranteed, if the adopted animal has been diagnosed with a life threatening disease (i.e., Parvo, Panleukopenia, Distemper) and must be documented by a licensed veterinarian within five (5) days of the adoption date.

Risk:

The animal adopted from the GCAS may have been exposed to various diseases from proximity to other animals. In addition, the physical condition of some animals may be less than ideal due to conditions the animal may have endured before arriving at the shelter; consequently, there is some risk in adoption. The GCAS strives to carefully screen animals and to inform prospective adopters of any perceivable problems, however, some problems may not be evident to the GCAS at the time of adoption

Returned Animals:

Animals may be surrendered to the shelter at any time if the adopter decides it is in his or her best interest of the animal; however, there is no refund or exchange. And the adopter will not be able to adopt from the shelter again for one full year.

***** Your New Pet and Rabies *****

Wildlife rabies is currently present in Guilford County. A dog, cat or other animal, which is bitten (exposed), by a rabid animal may develop symptoms of rabies for up to six (6) months. During this time (the incubation period), the exposed animal may appear to be healthy. Since the vaccination history of shelter animals is usually unknown, many of these animals may not be protected against rabies. Although all the animals for adoption have been carefully screened for signs of exposure to rabid animals before adoption, the possibility exists that your adopted pet may be infected.

It is, therefore, very important that you know these possible signs of symptoms in your pet; change in behavior, vicious, nervous activities, difficulty walking, or paralyses. If your adopted pet develops these symptoms, immediately, separate the animal from people and other animals until it can be examined by a veterinarian.

Newly adopted pets three (3) months of age and older will receive a vaccination before leaving the shelter, but a rabies vaccination may not protect the animal from previous bites or other exposure to rabies.

I understand and accept that there is risk in adoption and hold the GCAS harmless of liability damage from any disease that the animal may harbor at the time of adoption but was not evident at the time of the adoption.

Important Read Carefully:

I hereby represent to the GCAS that I wish to have this animal for my own personal pet and that I am not obtaining it for any other person, use, reason or purpose. I understand and acknowledge that the GCAS is entering into this agreement with me in reliance on that representation, and that the GCAS would not enter into this agreement, nor permit to have this animal, but for that representation. I have been informed, and I acknowledge that I fully understand, that under the North Carolina State Statutes 14-100, it is a Class H Felony to obtain goods, property or any other thing of value from another by use of a false representation.

Adopter verifies that he / she is 18 years of age or older, and fully understands the contractual obligation set forth above.

Adopter Signature

Today's Date

GCAS Representative

Today's Date