



## Financial & Administrative Services Department

Animal Services Division

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## PET ADOPTIONS

### IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED AS AN ADOPTER YOU MUST:

- Be 18 years of age or older
- Have identification showing your current address
- Have the knowledge and consent of your landlord (if you rent or lease your residence)
- Be able and willing to spend the time and money necessary to provide training, medical treatment and proper care for your pet.

### THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE ADOPTING A PET:

- Are you ready to be a responsible pet owner?
- Pets are a lifetime commitment. Expect about ten or more years of unconditional love.
- Pets require proper nutrition, shelter, preventative vet care, exercise and social interaction.
- Pets cost money. Expect possible licensing fees, collars, leashes, litter boxes, food bowls... *Will my budget allow for unforeseen expenses, such as vet bills?*
- Do I have the time to spend with my new pet? Walks. Play time. Grooming.
- Is my home ready? Is my fence in good repair? Does my landlord allow pets?
- What position does my homeowner's insurance agency take regarding owning a dog?
- Pet adoptions are not approved as gifts.

The pets here at the shelter are either unclaimed strays or owned animals surrendered for adoption. Owner surrendered pets cannot be available before the second day and all stray pets cannot be available before five (5) business days in order to allow the owner a chance to find it. In many cases, we know little about the pet's history. All pets are evaluated and must be approved for adoption. The evaluation is based on the pet's history, if known, health, and temperament with both people and other animals. Not all pets will be available for adoption.

If you have found a pet that has been determined to be adoptable, you will need to fill out an Adoption Consultation Form. An Animal Care Technician will review this form and evaluate the adoption from both yours and the pet's perspective. If the time of availability has past, the person with an approved application will be able to adopt. If there is more than one person interested and approved on the date and time the pet becomes available, a drawing will take place in order to be fair to all parties involved.

**Pets must be spayed or neutered before they are allowed to go home.** This is a State Law that is intended to reduce pet over-population. The surgery typically takes place the day following adoption, unless the next day falls on a Saturday or Sunday. In that event, the pet should be available to go home on Monday. The pet will also be micro chipped. A microchip is a small implant that allows the pet to be identified when scanned by a vet or shelter.

If you are adopting a dog or puppy, a vaccination is included which will help to protect your pet from Distemper, Parvo Virus, Parainfluenza, and Adeno 2 (Hepatitis). We recommend that you discuss a vaccination schedule with your Veterinarian to ensure your pet is protected. You will be given a vaccination record so that you may note and keep track of the vaccinations and other health care treatments.

**DOG & PUPPY ADOPTION**

\$30.00 Adoption (plus the spay/neuter fee) \*\*  
 \$16.00 Microchip Registration  
 \$10.00 5n 1 Vaccination  
 \$20.00 Rabies Deposit  
**\$15.00 License (MV Residents only)**

**CAT & KITTEN ADOPTION**

\$19.00 (plus the spay/neuter fee) \*\*  
 \$16.00 Microchip Registration  
 \$10.00 4n 1 Vaccination

**\*\*COST OF THE SPAY/NEUTER SURGERY IS A SEPARATE FEE, which you pay upon picking up the animal. (Usually the next day)**

	<u>DOGS</u>		<u>CATS</u>	
	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>
0-19 lbs.	\$ 73.00	\$ 58.00	\$57.00	\$37.00
20-29 lbs.	\$ 85.00	\$ 65.00		
30-39 lbs.	\$ 90.00	\$ 70.00		
40-49 lbs.	\$ 97.00	\$ 77.00		
50-59 lbs.	\$102.00	\$ 82.00		
60-69 lbs.	\$109.00	\$ 89.00		
Over 70 lbs.	\$134.00*	\$114.00* + \$1.00 per pound over 70 lbs.*		

After the adoption, you should make an appointment to take your new pet to your veterinarian within seven (7) days. Most area veterinarians will honor the free vet check-up certificate included in your adoption packet. If the pet becomes ill or a medical condition is diagnosed, you can choose to treat the pet or return it to the shelter. We will provide a refund or exchange, if the requirements are met. If, for any other reason, the pet does not work out with your family, you can return it within fifteen (15) days for a partial refund. Veterinary service fees are not refundable. More details will be provided on the adoption contract.

We strongly recommend obedience training for all dogs and puppies. Obedience training will establish a foundation for your pet to become a well-behaved member of your family. One of the most important elements of responsible pet ownership is socializing your pet with people and other animals. There are countless web sites, videos and books to assist you in training and socialization. We have many books and videos here at the shelter that we encourage you to watch. A staff member can assist you with preparing our conference room for you to view the videotapes or read the literature. These resources are not available to be checked out. We also have many books and tapes on a variety of subjects,

such as dog and cat breeds, behavior, animal cruelty, responsible pet ownership and others.

**We hope that this has been helpful for you in your important decision to consider adoption. To view pets for adoption online visit [www.moval.org](http://www.moval.org) or [www.petharbor.com](http://www.petharbor.com).**