



FOSTER MANUAL

Updated January 2022



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Welcome!

Welcome to Roice-Hurst Humane Society's foster program! Thank you for opening your heart and home to the animals in our care. We couldn't do what we do without the help of our dedicated foster volunteers, and we hope you find your foster experience fun and rewarding.

Fostering an animal means volunteering to temporarily provide care to a shelter pet in your home. A wide variety of animals require foster care for a multitude of reasons – bottle baby kittens and puppies, nursing moms, sick pets, behavior cases, and even adoptable dogs and cats who would simply rather await adoption from the comfort of a foster home. When you foster an animal, you're actually helping two pets: the one in your home and the one we can now bring in due to that space opening up. The walls of our shelter are as big as the community of supporters who surround us, and your support through fostering makes a tangible impact in the lives of many homeless pets.

While caring for your new foster pet, we ask that you continue to practice self-care to stay both physically and emotionally healthy. Please reach out to us whenever questions or concerns arise.

With gratitude,

Roice-Hurst Humane Society



COVID Companions: Fostering During a Pandemic

As COVID-19 leads to restrictions in our community, your foster home is vital in allowing us to open up more space at the shelter, cater to higher-than-usual demand for resources, and take in pets that others cannot care for due to impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. We hope your foster pet lifts your spirits during this time of uncertainty and provides you companionship to combat social distancing and quarantine loneliness.

As of September 2020, there is no evidence that dogs and cats can transmit the COVID-19 virus to humans. According to the CDC, there is no evidence that coronavirus can be transmitted via contact with animal fur. The human-animal bond is crucial for both you and your animal's well-being, so embrace your pets during this difficult time!

In the event that you or a member of your household becomes ill with COVID-19, please notify Roice-Hurst Humane Society to make proper arrangements for your foster pet. It is also important to plan ahead for your own resident pets if you were to become sick, so be sure to reach out to friends and family to put a plan in place in case you are no longer able to care for your own pets. See more information on page 23 regarding what to do if you can no longer foster your pet in the event you are ill with COVID-19.



Contact Information

Foster Coordinator

Lissa Hall

Email: lissa@rhhumanesociety.org (preferred)

Cell: 970-216-6222 (call or text)

*Please note this number is also the After-Hours
Emergency Hotline*

Shelter: 970-434-7337 ext 104

Foster Coordinator Hours:

Monday-Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

**The Foster Coordinator is your first point of
contact for any questions or concerns.**

Veterinarian:

Dr. Cathlin Craver

970-434-7337 ext. 105

If your foster pet has a medical need, please
contact the Foster Coordinator first.

Behavior & Adoption Staff:

Please call the main shelter line at 970-434-7337
or email info@rhhumanesociety.org to reach our
behavior and adoption team.

Roice-Hurst Humane Society

GRAND JUNCTION LOCATION

(970) 434-7337

362 28 Road, Grand Junction, CO 81501

Hours: Tuesday-Sunday 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm
(Closed on Mondays)

DELTA LOCATION

970-874-1078

720 West 4th Street, Delta, CO 81416

Hours: Mon-Fri 11am-1pm & 4pm-5:30pm.
Sat-Sun 11am-1pm

After-Hours Emergency Foster Hotline

970-216-6222

For after-hours situations, please call this number.
If no answer, leave a message with your full
name, phone number, and situation. Follow the
instructions in the voicemail prompt. We will get
back to you as soon as possible.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:

- If the shelter is open, call the shelter
(GJ: 970-434-7337 or Delta:
970-874-1078)
- If the shelter is closed, call the
After-Hours Emergency Hotline
(970-216-6222). If there is no answer,
please leave a message and follow
the directions in the voicemail
prompt.

The Foster & Adoption Process Step-By-Step

Step 1. Sign up to foster on our website at rhumanesociety.org/foster. You will receive a welcome email from our Foster Coordinator.

Step 2. Complete the foster home checklist and watch the foster orientation video. The foster home checklist can be found on page 13.

Step 3. Check out our list of pets eligible for foster at bit.ly/roicehurstfosters and email lissa@rhumanesociety.org if one catches your eye. Tips for picking out a foster pet using this tool are on page 17. Or, you may receive a call/text/email when we have a pet in need of foster care who fits your preferences or needs an immediate foster placement. You may decline any potential fosters.

Step 4. Pick up your foster pet and any supplies you will need from the shelter. Sign a Foster Agreement upon pickup. The Foster Agreement can be found on page 43.

Step 5. Keep in touch with the Foster Coordinator about how your foster animal is doing and what medical appointments are needed. If your foster pet is not yet spayed/neutered, the surgery will take place at the shelter prior to adoption. Send pictures and information about your foster pet for their online profile, even if they are not yet adoptable! Tips for taking photos and writing bios for your foster pet are on pages 30 and 31.

Step 6. When your foster pet is ready for adoption, you may be asked to either return the pet to the shelter OR you will become their adoption ambassador. A more thorough explanation of each step of the adoption process starts on page 32.

- **If your foster pet returns to the shelter for adoption**, they will be made available for adoption and will be adopted from the shelter. If you would like to write a letter to the animal's future adopter, feel free to do so and we will include it in the animal's adoption folder. If you'd like, you can add your contact information to the letter so the adopter can send you updates! Just remember to respect the adopter's privacy if they choose to do so. This foster journey is complete!

Step 7. If you become their adoption ambassador, you will receive a customized adoption packet for your foster pet along with adoption instructions. You will receive a call when the packet is ready for pickup. Detailed instructions on using this packet are on page 35.

Step 8. Your foster pet will go up on our website. Potential adopters can submit an online interest form to meet your pet. This interest form will be forwarded to you via email. Please contact the potential adopter within 48 hours.

Step 9. Call the potential adopter and discuss your foster pet. Be open and honest. The goal of this phone call is to set this potential adopter up for success with this pet and allow them to learn about your foster animal. A friendly, open-ended, conversational approach makes this process less intimidating and more enjoyable for both you and the adopter. More information about the adoption counseling process is on page 34.

Step 10. If the potential adopter would like to meet your foster pet in person, schedule a showing. This can be done at the shelter by appointment, in your home, or, for adult dogs, in a public place like a park. More information on showing your foster pet is on page 34. Continue your conversation, allow the potential adopter to interact with the pet, and answer any questions they may have.

Step 11. If they decide to adopt, follow the instructions on the adoption paperwork provided to you, collect the adoption fee, and return it all to Roice-Hurst as soon as possible. Your foster pet is now adopted!

Time Commitments

All animals require time spent for their care, socialization, cleaning, and transportation.

| Type of Foster | Daily Commitment | Duration of Stay |
|---|---|---|
| <p>Neonatal Orphan Kittens & Puppies</p> | <p>Depending on their ages, neonatal kittens and puppies require frequent care as often as every two hours, including overnight.</p> | <p>Kittens and puppies usually leave foster care at 8 weeks old, so it depends at what age they entered foster care. You may be asked to keep the animals until they have been adopted.</p> |
| <p>Weaned Kittens & Puppies</p> | <p>Depending on their age, weaned kittens and puppies only need care a few times per day. They can be left alone while you are at work and do not require overnight care.</p> | <p>Weaned animals are aged about 5 weeks and older. They usually leave foster care at 8 weeks old. You may be asked to keep the animals until they have been adopted.</p> |
| <p>Pregnant Cat/Dog or Nursing Mother with Kittens/Puppies</p> | <p>Pregnant animals should be monitored frequently but can be left alone while you are at work and do not require overnight care. A nursing mother needs to be fed frequently, and her babies should be monitored daily. They can be left alone while you are at work and do not require overnight care.</p> | <p>Duration can vary. Feline and canine pregnancy lasts about 64 days, but she will likely be closer to delivery when she enters foster care. Once the babies reach 8 weeks old, the family can leave foster care. You may be asked to keep the animals until they have been adopted.</p> |
| <p>Under-Socialized Cats & Kittens & Behavior Dogs & Puppies</p> | <p>Under-socialized kittens need frequent play time and human contact. While they can be left alone while you are at work, they do need several hours of specialized attention daily. Behavior dogs widely vary in their needs and time commitments, depending on the behavior you are trying to correct.</p> | <p>The duration widely varies depending on the socialization or behavior status of the cat or dog. The pet will leave foster care when their behavior improves or when they are adopted.</p> |
| <p>Medical Fosters</p> | <p>Medical care can be for any type of foster with a variety of possible issues, so daily commitment will vary.</p> | <p>The duration widely varies. You may be asked to keep the animals until they have been adopted.</p> |
| <p>Adoptable Pets</p> | <p>The average adoptable pet requires a normal amount of time to care for (feeding, playing, cleaning, etc.) and usually does not require overnight care. You will be asked to spend time talking to potential adopters and processing the adoption.</p> | <p>You will be asked to keep the animal until they have been adopted.</p> |

Foster Facebook Group and Page

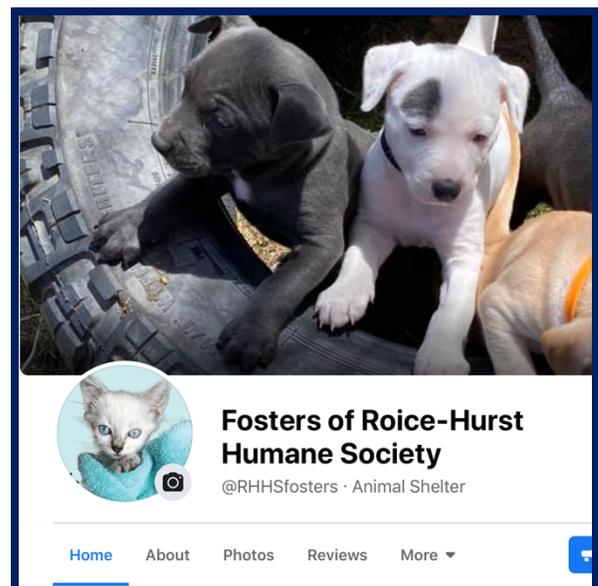
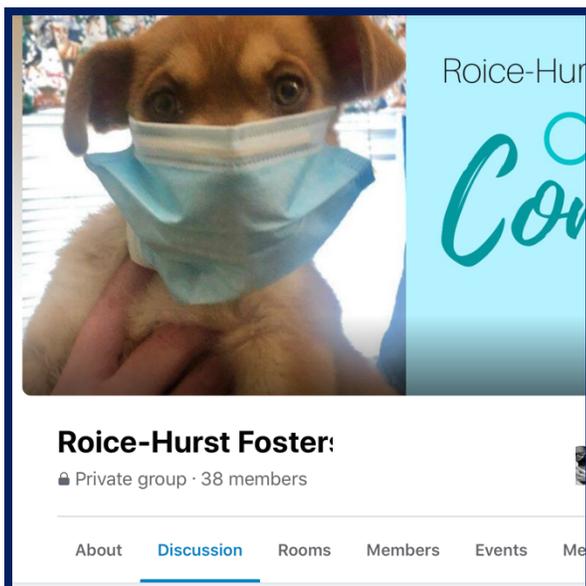
“Roice-Hurst Fosters” Facebook Group

As a foster, you are able to join our private Facebook group specifically made for Roice-Hurst Fosters. The group is called “**Roice-Hurst Fosters**”. The purpose of this group is to create a sense of community among our foster volunteers by posting questions, experiences, information, cute photos/videos, and get to know others who have opened their hearts and homes to our foster animals. Our fosters have many valuable experiences that could be used to help others, and we could all use support through the more difficult aspects of fostering. Plus, who doesn't love animal pictures? Feel free to ask questions, meet other foster volunteers, find a respite foster, look up resources, and more using this group. Animals needing foster care, foster program news, and other important information will be posted here. Find the group at [Facebook.com/groups/RoiceHurstFosters](https://www.facebook.com/groups/RoiceHurstFosters).

“Fosters of Roice-Hurst Humane Society” Facebook Page

In addition to the Facebook group just for fosters, the foster program also has a public Facebook page that exclusively features animals in foster care! This page is separate from the main Roice-Hurst Humane Society Facebook page. We welcome you to share photos and videos of your foster pets with the Foster Coordinator via email or by posting in the Roice-Hurst Fosters Facebook Group (see info above), along with short bios about each foster pet. These photos and bios will be posted to the Facebook page. Hopefully, your foster's future adopter will see the post and decide to meet them! Any adoptable or pre-adoptable animal can be posted on the page, even if they are underage. Find the Facebook page at [Facebook.com/RHHSFosters](https://www.facebook.com/RHHSFosters) or search “**Fosters of Roice-Hurst Humane Society**”.

We highly encourage you to share your foster pets on your personal social media pages! For more information about promoting your foster pet on social media, see pages 28-31.



Policies & Liability

Ownership & Liability

- All foster animals are the legal property of Roice-Hurst Humane Society. All supplies given for the care of foster animals are property of RHHS.
- RHHS is not responsible or liable for any medical care to personally owned pets resulting from fostering RHHS animals. Any and all veterinary expenses for personally owned animals are the sole responsibility of the owner.
- RHHS is not liable for any property damage or personal injury caused by a RHHS foster animal.
- If the foster animal is injured while in foster care, and the injury is caused from an owned animal in the home or negligence by the foster care provider, the foster care provider is responsible for payment of any medical costs incurred in treating the foster and/or owned animals.
- See the Foster Agreement for more information. The above points are included in the Foster Agreement and will be kept on file.

General Policies

- All pets in foster care are the property of Roice-Hurst Humane Society (RHHS) and are subject to all applicable RHHS policies, rules, and restrictions. Please see the Foster Agreement for details.
- Please return foster pets on the agreed-upon date or upon request by RHHS. **If you can no longer care for your foster pet for any reason, you may return the pet to RHHS by appointment.** If possible, please give the Foster Coordinator at least one week of notice before returning your foster pet.
- You are expected to provide proper and loving care to your foster pets, including adequate food, fresh water, indoor shelter, socialization, required medication, and a clean environment. **Vet care will be provided by RHHS, and supplies such as food and litter can be provided by RHHS upon request.** You may choose to purchase food and supplies for your foster pet, which is greatly appreciated but not required. Any purchases you make for your foster animal (including vet care) cannot be reimbursed without prior approval from RHHS management.
- Please **return any reusable items at the end of your animal's foster stay**, unless otherwise told by RHHS staff. Any damaged or non-returned items will be your responsibility to replace.
- You are responsible for providing transportation for the animal as needed. If transportation is an issue, please notify the Foster Coordinator.
- If you have other pets in the home, they must be **up to date on vaccinations and friendly to your foster pets**. If you are fostering an animal with an unknown medical history, such as a kitten found outdoors, please **keep the foster pet confined to their own space** away from other pets for at least two weeks or until proven healthy.
- **If your foster pet appears to be sick, injured, or behaving abnormally**, immediately contact RHHS using the contact information provided on page 21 (non-emergency) or page 22 (emergency).

- Only **treat foster pets with medications and supplements prescribed by RHHS veterinary staff**, unless alternative care arrangements have been approved by the Foster Coordinator.
- Your foster animal may be available for adoption during his or her time in foster care, so please **notify the Foster Coordinator as soon as possible if you are interested in adopting your own foster animal** or if you have found an adopter for your foster animal. The animal belongs to RHHS and cannot be placed in a new home until the adoption process is completed (including spay/neuter), unless otherwise instructed by RHHS.
- **You may not place your foster animal in a new home, boarding facility, or with other individuals unless directed to do so by RHHS.** If you are going out of town and need a sitter for your foster pet, please notify the Foster Coordinator. You may use an in-house pet-sitter to care for your foster pets temporarily, but notify the Foster Coordinator beforehand and be sure that the pet-sitter knows our policies and how to get medical attention for the animal if needed.
- **Foster pets must be kept in a climate-controlled home** and may not be kept in garages or screened-in porches that are not climate controlled.
- **Foster dogs may not be left outside unsupervised unless approved by RHHS staff.** You may be asked to keep your foster dog in a crate indoors when unsupervised. Please **keep your foster dog on a leash** at all times when not confined to a supervised, fenced yard.
- **Do not take your foster dog to the dog park.**
- Please put an ID tag on your foster dog's collar with RHHS's phone number. These tags can be provided by RHHS.
- **Foster cats may not be let outdoors unless approved by RHHS staff.**
- Prior to taking home your first foster animal, please **complete the Home Safety Checklist** (see page 13).
- Children under the age of 12 should not be left unsupervised with foster pets.
- Notify RHHS immediately if a foster pet bites a person or pet and the bite breaks skin.
- Notify RHHS immediately if a foster pet becomes lost.
- For more information on RHHS policies and procedures, please see the Foster Agreement, which you will sign each time you take home a new foster animal.

Puppy & Dog Policies

Puppies should never be left unsupervised outdoors and should not be on publicly accessible grass until after 4 months old, such a yard next to a public sidewalk. High-traffic areas, such as the dog park, public parks, pet stores, public sidewalks and trails, etc. must be avoided, as under-vaccinated puppies can be susceptible to deadly diseases that could be lurking there. If you have ever had an animal sick with parvovirus in your house or yard, please let the Foster Coordinator know this prior to taking home a puppy as alternative arrangements may need to be made.

Adult dogs should be given time outside for supervised play time and exercise. While outdoors, foster dogs must be kept on leash or in a securely fenced yard. Some dogs can jump or climb over or dig under fences surprisingly quickly, so please be cautious and keep an eye on them.

If you plan to introduce your foster dog or puppy to another animal, please see page 12.

Cat & Kitten Policies

Kittens and cats in foster care must be kept indoors only. When being transported, cats and kittens must be in secure carriers. In general, it's best to keep cats and kittens confined to one room in your home at first. Adult cats and fearful kittens feel more secure when their space is limited and are less likely to hide under furniture or use the bathroom in inappropriate places. This also gives them a chance to get used to the sounds and smells of your home. Kittens with unknown medical histories, particularly those found outdoors, are best kept confined to their own space away from other pets for at least 2 weeks. More information on introducing pets to each other is on the next page and on page 42.



Resident Pets & Animal Introductions

When you bring home a foster pet, your resident pets should be fully vaccinated. Your resident cat(s) should have an FVRCP vaccine (which protects against rhinotracheitis, calicivirus, and panleukopenia), a feline leukemia vaccine, and a rabies vaccine. Your resident dog(s) should be vaccinated against canine parvovirus, distemper, canine hepatitis and rabies. While fostering, please do not introduce new animals into your home who have unknown health histories as they may be a risk to your foster animals. If you have a pet in your home who has not been spayed or neutered, you must notify the Foster Coordinator as you will not be able to foster unaltered adult animals of the same species and opposite sex of your unaltered pet. Please be aware that some foster pets have unknown health histories and may be carrying illness.

If you will be introducing your foster pet to another pet, such as your owned pets or a potential adopter's pet, please consult the pet introduction handouts in the back of this book and/or contact RHHS at 970-434-7337 for advice or hands-on help. Be cautious of animal body language.

DOGS: If you are concerned that your resident dogs may not get along with your new foster dog, you may schedule an introduction between the potential foster dog and your resident dogs at the shelter prior to taking home the new foster dog. If you would like your foster dog to meet a potential adopter's dog, this can be done at the shelter under the supervision of RHHS staff, or you may follow the instructions for adult dog introductions on page 39 in a neutral place, such as a public park. Because puppies are high-risk for contracting disease, if you are interested in letting your foster puppy meet with another dog or puppy, especially from outside of your household, discuss this with the Foster Coordinator so that proper arrangements can be made. Please remember that foster dogs and puppies are prohibited from being off-leash in public areas and must stay on-leash, under your control and supervision, at all times. Use caution when allowing your foster dog to interact with your resident cats, as some dogs see cats as prey.

CATS: If you are fostering a kitten or litter of kittens, especially if they were born/found outdoors and have an unknown medical history, it is important to keep these kittens confined away from other pets for two weeks or until proven healthy. Do not let them roam freely in your home; instead keep them in a room such as a bathroom or spare bedroom. Kittens found outdoors are often under-vaccinated, making them vulnerable to disease. Symptoms of disease may not be present immediately, so it's important to watch out for any signs of sickness and wash your hands after handling the kittens. A good rule of thumb is to assume your foster kittens are sick until proven healthy.

Children in the Home

Young children must always be supervised when handling or in the presence of foster animals. Educate your children on how to properly handle and respect foster animals. A hand-washing protocol should be in place (especially with sick foster pets). Fostering kittens can be a great educational tool to help teach children about compassion, gentleness, and boundaries, but be sure to only allow age-appropriate participation. Some dogs don't realize their size and can easily knock over small children! Watch your foster pet's body language and don't allow your child to climb on the pet, get in the pet's face or pull their ears or tail.

Home Safety Checklist

Roice-Hurst Humane Society was temporarily authorized in March 2020 by the Pet Animal Care Facilities Act (PACFA) to forgo in-person home checks in the effort of maintaining social distancing and keeping our community healthy through the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, we are relying on you to ensure your home meets the following requirements. Please complete and return the Home Checklist document that you received in your welcome email to the Foster Coordinator prior to picking up your first foster pet. This checklist must be completed once per year. We may visit your home at a later date to verify these requirements are being met if you continue to foster for RHHS. Please walk through your home with this checklist and imagine your home from an animal's perspective. What kinds of hazards could they get into? What escape routes could there be? Please correct any hazards prior to bringing home your first foster animal.

- Storm doors are able to close
- Latches are functional on doors, windows, and dog/cat doors
- Other pets in the house are current on vaccinations
- Foster animals have a dedicated space not accessible to other animals (such as a bathroom or spare bedroom)
- Area is temperature-controlled
- No toxic plants accessible to animals (neither inside nor outside, if fostering dogs) (See lists on pages 15 and 16)
- Have basic first aid supplies (like gauze, rubbing alcohol, etc.)
- Secure storage for pet food away from fosters and other pets
- Dedicated areas for newborn delivery if fostering pregnant animals
- Separate quarantine areas if fostering multiple unrelated animals/litters
- Home is kept clean and animal waste is removed frequently
- No evidence of small children in foster area (such as loose toys)
- Foster animal do not have access to cleaning supplies or other chemicals, such as rat poison or antifreeze (neither inside nor outside, if fostering dogs)
- Foster animals do not have access to human or animal medications
- Foster cats do not have access to electrical or window blind cords they may chew
- Foster animals do not have access to the inside of a trash can
- Foster animals do not have access to the inside of a washer or dryer
- No accessible hazards such as ashtrays, lit candles, string/thread/yarn, bobby pins, thumb tacks, sewing kits, glass or fragile objects, or toys with small removable parts
- If keeping foster animals in a bathroom, the toilet lid is kept down
- Resident pets are well-socialized, clean, and friendly toward people and other animals

- Resident pets are spayed/neutered (if not, you **cannot** foster an unaltered adult animal of the same species and opposite sex of your unaltered pet)
- Know where RHHS is (362 28 Road) and save the RHHS main phone number (970-434-7337) and the Foster Coordinator/emergency number (970-216-6222) into your phone
- Be familiar with medical emergency protocol (see page 22)

If you are fostering **dogs**:

NOTE: If you are fostering dogs and do not have a yard, please be sure to take the dog out for frequent leashed, supervised potty breaks and exercise.

- Indoor area for dog bed or crate (You may borrow these items from RHHS)
- Fully-fenced yard (if not, have a plan to keep the dog from running away, such as only taking them out on a leash)
- Yard is properly shaded (if applicable)
- Water bowl in the yard (if applicable)
- Digging would not create a major problem with landscaping (if applicable)
- No elevated areas that a dog could leap off of and get hurt
- Nothing stacked near the fence that the dog could climb on to get out (if applicable)
- No potential escape routes from the yard
- No sharp objects in the yard that could injure the dog



Toxic Plants

RHHS asks that you keep any of the toxic plants listed below out of reach of your foster pet. Please note that the information contained in the plant list below is not exhaustive. For more information, contact the ASPCA at napcc@aspc.org. (* denotes most common plants)

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|--|
| Aloe | Cordatum | Golden Pothos | Mistletoe "American" |
| Amaryllis | Corn Plant (aka Cornstalk Plant) | Green Gold Nephthysis | Morning Glory |
| Andromeda Japonica | Cutleaf Philodendron (aka Ceriman) | Hahn's self-branching English Ivy | Mother-in-Law |
| Asian Lily (Liliaceae)* | Cycads | Heartleaf Philodendron | Narcissus* |
| Asparagus Fern | Cyclamen* | Heavenly Bamboo | Needlepoint Ivy |
| Australian Nut | Daffodil | Holly | Nephthytis |
| Autumn Crocus | Day Lily* | Horsehead Philodendron | Nightshade |
| Avocado | Deadly Nightshade | Hurricane Plant | Oleander* |
| Azalea* | Devil's Ivy | Hyacinth | Onion |
| Bird of Paradise | Dumb Cane | Hydrangea | Orange Day Lily* |
| American Bittersweet | Easter Lily* | Iris | Panda |
| European Bittersweet | Elephant Ears | Japanese Show Lily* | Philodendron Pertusum |
| Branching Ivy | Emerald Feather (aka Emerald Fern) | Japanese Yew (aka Yew)* | Plumosa Fern |
| Buckeye | English Ivy | Jerusalem Cherry | Poinsettia |
| Buddist Pine | Fiddle-Leaf Philodendron | Kalanchoe* | Precatory Bean |
| Caladium | Flamingo Plant | Lace Fern | Queensland Nut |
| Calla Lily* | Florida Beauty | Lacy Tree | Red Emerald |
| Castor Bean | Foxglove | Lily of the Valley* | Red Lily* |
| Ceriman (aka Cutleaf Philodendron) | Fruit Salad Plant | Macadamia Nut | Red-Margined Dracaena (aka Straight-Margined Dracaena) |
| Charming Diffenbachia | Glacier Ivy | Madagascar Dragon Tree | Red Princess |
| Chinaberry Tree | Gladiolas | Marble Queen | Rhododendron* |
| Chinese Evergreen | Glory Lily* | Marijuana* | Ribbon Plant (Dracaena Sanderiana) |
| Christmas Rose | Gold Dieffenbachia | Mauna Loa Peace Lily (aka Peace Lily)* | Rubrum Lily* |
| Clematis | Gold Dust Dracaena | Mexican Breadfruit | Saddle Leaf Philodendron |

Harmful Foods

RHHS also asks you to keep any of the potentially poisonous or harmful foods listed below out of reach of your foster pet. Foster animals should be fed the appropriate food for their species only. Avoid giving table scraps and human food! Please note that the information contained in the list below is not exhaustive. For more information, contact the ASPCA at napcc@aspca.org.

(* denotes most common poisonous foods)

| | |
|--|---|
| Alcoholic beverages | Mushroom plants |
| Apple seeds | Mustard seeds |
| Apricot pits | Onions and onion powder * |
| Avocados | Peach pits |
| Cherry pits | Peanut Butters containing Xylitol* |
| Candy (particularly chocolate, which is toxic and any candy containing the sweetener Xylitol) * | Potato leaves and stems (green parts) |
| Chicken bones * | Raisins |
| Coffee (grounds, beans, chocolate covered espresso beans) | Rhubarb leaves |
| Grapes | Salt |
| Hops (used in home beer brewing) | Tea (caffeine) |
| Macadamia nuts | Tomato leaves and stems (green parts) |
| Milk (for cats)* | Walnuts |
| Moldy foods | Yeast dough |

Picking Your Foster Pet on Trello

When you're ready to take home a new foster pet, use our Foster Trello Board to see who is available! If you see one who sparks your interest, please send an email to the Foster Coordinator at lissa@rhumanesociety.org. From there, you can learn more about the pet and set a pickup time!

Visit the Foster Trello Board at bit.ly/RoiceHurstFosters.

Many of the animals shown on this board are available for adoption or will soon be available, and as their foster, you may be expected to be their adoption ambassador and adopt them out yourself using a customized adoption packet. More information about adopting out your foster pets is on pages 32-26.

If you are a foster for young kittens, puppies, nursing moms, and specialized medical cases, you may still be contacted on an individual basis about incoming animals. Many of these animals need to move into foster care right away upon intake.

Navigating the Foster Trello Board

- Each column contains a different type of animal. The first column includes instructions on how to use the board. The next column shows all of our adult dogs eligible for foster, the next shows adult cats, then kittens, then puppies. The foster resources column includes links to important documents, informative videos, and more.
- Scroll sideways across the screen to see more columns and scroll down within each column to see more animals.
- Click on the animal's picture to see more information about that animal.
- Click on the colored tabs below the animals' pictures to see which tags each animal is labeled with. These tags will tell you the sex of the animal, whether they are spayed/neutered, if they are available for adoption, what kind of home they would do best in, how big they are, and more.

The screenshot shows a Trello board titled "RHHS In Need of Foster". The board is organized into columns: "Adult Dogs", "Adult Cats", "Kittens", "Puppies", and "Foster Resources".

- Adult Dogs:** Contains cards for Braven (Spayed/Neutered, Behavior Program, Large, Female), Bear (NO KIDS, Not Spayed/Neutered, Male, Under-socialized), and Red the Rottle (Behavior Program, NO CATS, NO DOGS, NO KIDS, Male).
- Adult Cats:** Contains cards for Leon & Mathilda (Spayed/Neutered, NO DOGS, NO KIDS, Bonded Pair, Male, Available For Adoption, Female) and Millie (Spayed/Neutered, Available For Adoption, Female).
- Kittens:** Contains information about incoming kittens, including "Most kittens cannot stay in the shelter..." and "INCOMING: 3 kittens, 6 weeks old".
- Puppies:** Contains information about incoming puppies, including "We do not have any puppies needing foster care at this time..." and "INCOMING: 4 kittens, 6 weeks old".
- Foster Resources:** Contains links to "EMERGENCY INSTRUCTIONS", "Contact information", "General Foster Manual", "Foster Agreement", "Home Checklist", "Foster Orientation Video", "Fear-Free Felines Handbook", "Foster Facebook Group", "Promoting Your Foster Pet", "Helpful Videos", "Dog-to-Dog Introductions", and "Dog-to-Cat Introductions".

Any contributions you are able to make toward your foster pet's food and supplies is greatly appreciated but not required. RHHS can provide all necessary supplies such as food, litter, toys, carriers, crates, blankets, etc. upon request, so long as we have the items stocked at the shelter. Please ask for any supplies you need prior to pickup of your foster animal so that we can have them ready for you. You may request additional supplies as needed by calling 970-434-7337 or emailing lissa@rhumanesociety.org. Supply pickup is by appointment.

We cannot reimburse you for any purchases you make for your foster pet (including vet care) without prior approval from RHHS management. Please only use the supplies provided by RHHS to care for your foster pet, not your owned pets.

After each foster stay, please clean and return all reusable or unused items borrowed from RHHS, unless told otherwise by RHHS staff. You are responsible for replacing or repairing damaged or non-returned items.

All veterinary care must be provided by RHHS unless a different arrangement has been made with approval from the Foster Coordinator or Shelter Veterinarian. If you take your foster pet to a different veterinarian without prior approval from RHHS, you will be responsible for paying any costs related to the visit.

If you would like to provide your own food for your foster pet, our shelter veterinarian recommends purchasing the following brands if possible:

CATS/KITTENS:

1. Wellness
2. Merrick
3. Earthborn Holistic
4. BFF (Best Feline Friend)
5. Weruva
6. Nature's Variety
7. Orijen
8. Taste of the Wild
9. Tiki Cat
10. Acana
11. Halo
12. Ziwi Peak

DOGS/PUPPIES:

1. Wellness
2. Merrick
3. Earthborn Holistic
4. Taste of the wild
5. Natural Balance
6. Nature's Variety
7. Orijen
8. 4health
9. Acana
10. Holistic Select
11. Halo
12. Fromm



Feeding Your Foster Pet

Bottle-Fed Kittens & Puppies (0-5 weeks)

- Please search for the video “How to Safely Bottle Feed a Kitten” by Kitten Lady on YouTube. The same general advice applies to both bottle-fed kittens and puppies.
- In general, follow the below feeding chart (courtesy of Kitten Lady). Remember, bottle babies need to eat every few hours, even overnight. Keep them warm with a heating disk or heat pad. At each feeding, stimulate the kitten to go potty. Only feed kittens and puppies formula made specifically for their species, never cow’s milk or baby formula. Feed babies with their belly down in a natural position, never on their backs.
- **Please refer to the RHHS Foster Kitten Handbook for more detailed information on caring for bottle babies and kittens learning to wean. If you do not have a copy, please email the Foster Coordinator or check under the “Resources” tab at bit.ly/RoiceHurstFosters.**

kitten weight and feeding chart

| AGE | WEIGHT | AMOUNT PER FEEDING | SCHEDULE |
|-----------|---------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 0-1 week | 50-150 grams | 2-6 ml | Every 2 hours |
| 1-2 weeks | 150-250 grams | 6-10 ml | Every 2-3 hours |
| 2-3 weeks | 250-350 grams | 10-14 ml | Every 3-4 hours |
| 3-4 weeks | 350-450 grams | 14-18 ml | Every 4-5 hours |
| 4-5 weeks | 450-550 grams | 18-22 ml | Every 5-6 hours |
| 5-8 weeks | 550-850 grams | (weaning; offer ample wet food) | Every 6 hours |

Weaned Kittens & Puppies (6+ weeks)

Feed weaned kittens and puppies a generous amount of wet food (about 2 big spoonfuls) a few times per day depending on their age and your schedule. Provide dry food and water at all times. Younger animals will need more frequent feedings of wet food (about 4 times per day), especially if they are not quite comfortable eating dry kibble yet. Older animals can be fed wet food 3 times per day. Depending on your schedule, this might mean feeding when you wake up, when you come home from work, and again right before you go to bed.

Adult Cats & Dogs

Not all cats and dogs are equal, so feed a generous amount of food twice a day. Cats should be getting wet food along with their meals (about 2 big spoonfuls). If you are not sure how much you should be feeding, please ask the Foster Coordinator. Always leave out fresh water.

Recommended First Aid Supplies

While these items are not required, they are recommended to have on hand in the case of an emergency until your foster animal can receive professional medical attention. Some of these items may be provided by RHHS at the time of fostering.

If your foster pet is experiencing a medical emergency, please follow the directions on page 22. Only use these first aid items to keep the pet stable until they can receive professional medical attention. Do not attempt to diagnose or treat your foster pet's medical conditions on your own.

- Karo syrup. *Fading or unresponsive kittens and puppies often have critically low blood sugar. Rubbing Karo syrup on a lethargic animal's gums will help raise glucose levels.*
- Heating pad. *Fading kittens or puppies may be critically hypothermic. Wrap them in a covered heating pad to help raise their temperature.*
- Clear, unflavored Pedialyte. *If a kitten or puppy is dehydrated, replace or supplement water with Pedialyte.*
- Digital thermometer
- Petroleum jelly
- Gauze or bandages
- Blanket or towel
- Disposable gloves



Veterinary Treatment Guide

Vaccinations

Every foster pet's vaccination schedule is different based on their current age, the age of intake, and previous vaccination history. Your foster pet will likely be vaccinated upon intake and every 3 weeks thereafter until fully vaccinated. At 14 weeks of age, your foster pet will need their rabies vaccine. The Foster Coordinator will contact you to set up vaccination appointments.

Spay/Neuter

We perform all spay/neuter procedures on-site at Roice-Hurst. When your foster pet reaches 2 pounds, please notify the Foster Coordinator to get the animal on the surgery schedule. You will receive a call from RHHS to set up drop off and pick up times. You will drop off your foster pet the day of surgery and pick up same day.

Non-Emergency Medical Conditions

If you have a sick or injured foster pet and the situation is not an emergency or life-threatening, call the shelter at 970-434-7447 or call/text/email the Foster Coordinator at 970-216-6222 or lissa@rhhumanesociety.org to schedule a vet appointment. (NOTE: The Foster Coordinator hours are Mon-Fri from 9-5.) These conditions are not an emergency, but do require medical attention:

- Has not eaten anything in 48 hours
- Vomiting 2 times over a 24-hour period
- Diarrhea that lasts longer than 48 hours (as long as it is not dark black in color and does not contain blood)
- Frequent coughing but no fainting or trouble breathing
- Coughing that gets worse over a 24-hour period
- Mucus discharge from the eyes or nose, but still eating normally
- Limping or acting painful, but still walking on the affected leg/foot
- Excessively itchy skin
- Scratching ears repeatedly or acting painful when the ears are touched
- Lethargy for longer than 48 hours; lack of energy or interest in normal behaviors previously observed
- Minor skin wounds that are not bleeding
- Broken toenails that are not bleeding
- Mild fever (rectal temperature of 103-104 degrees in a cat or dog)

EMERGENCY INFORMATION IS ON THE NEXT PAGE

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

- If the shelter is **open (Tues-Sun 12-4)**, call the shelter (**970-434-7337**)
- If the shelter is **closed**, call the foster emergency phone (**970-216-6222**). If there is no answer, follow the directions in the voicemail prompt. (Please call instead of text in an emergency!)

Emergency Medical Conditions

The following medical conditions are emergencies and should receive immediate attention:

- Dog who has not eaten anything in more than 48 hours
- Cat who has not eaten anything in more than 72 hours
- Vomiting that contains large amounts of blood
- Coughing that is severe and causes labored or difficult breathing
- Fainting
- Swelling of the face, eyelids, or lips
- Pale gums
- High fever (rectal temperature higher than 104 degrees in cat or dog)
- Physical trauma resulting in broken bones, deep wounds, or difficulty breathing or walking
- Not putting weight on a limb/foot and the limb/foot is swollen, bleeding, or extremely painful to the touch
- Skin wounds that are bleeding and the bleeding does not stop after pressure is applied to the area for 5-10 minutes.
- Broken toenails that are bleeding
- Bleeding from the nose or mouth
- Consumption of a poison (such as chocolate, grapes, antifreeze, onions, marijuana, rat poison, etc.)
- Choking or an obstruction of the airway (such as a toy or piece of fabric stuck in the mouth/throat)
- Severe lethargy, labored breathing, confusion, or disorientation
- Straining to urinate or defecate with obvious pain present
- A cat who strains to urinate multiple times and has not produced any urine
- Seizures

LOST or BITTEN

- If your foster pet is **LOST**, notify RHHS immediately.
- If your foster pet has **BITTEN** a human or animal, notify RHHS immediately. A bite means a tooth has broken skin. The nature of the bite may not be aggressive, but if a tooth breaks skin, it must be reported. The animal may need to come back to the shelter for bite quarantine by law.

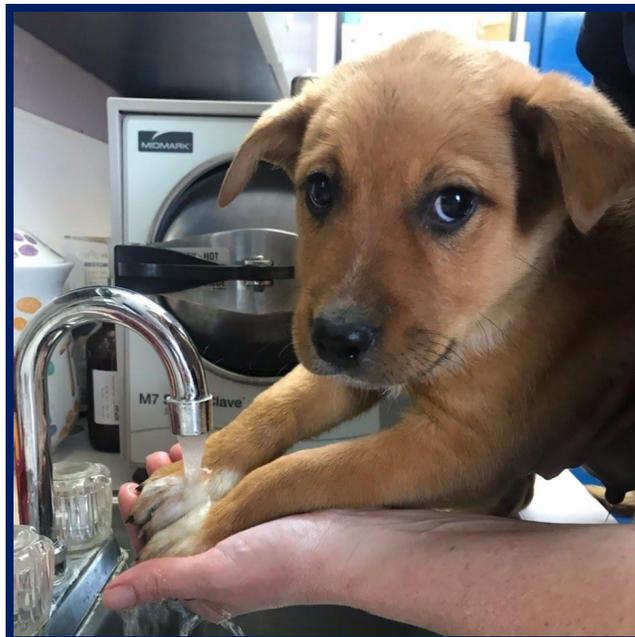
COVID-19 Protocol

In the event that you or a member of your household becomes ill with COVID-19, please notify RHHS by calling 970-434-7337.

While there is no evidence as of August 2020 that animals can transmit the virus to humans, there is evidence that humans can pass the virus to cats and possibly dogs. If you are sick with COVID-19, please keep your distance from your foster pets if possible and refrain from close contact such as cuddling.

If you are so ill that you can no longer care for your foster pet, you will be asked to abide by the following protocol to return the pet:

1. Set an appointment time to bring the animal back to RHHS.
2. The foster animal will need to be brought to RHHS, if possible, by someone who is not sick with COVID-19.
3. Prior to your appointment time, a staff member will have unlocked one of the Mesa County Animal Services (MCAS) outdoor holding kennels for you, located outside the front gate of Roice-Hurst.
4. You will place the foster pet inside the MCAS outdoor holding kennel at Roice-Hurst and lock the kennel door. If you are bringing us a cat, please keep the cat inside a hard-sided carrier, and place the carrier inside the kennel rather than letting the cat loose.
5. Please call the shelter at 970-434-7337 once the animal is inside the kennel and you can return home.
6. A staff member will take your foster pet into the shelter (utilizing personal protective equipment), the pet will be bathed, examined by the veterinarian, and cared for by RHHS staff.

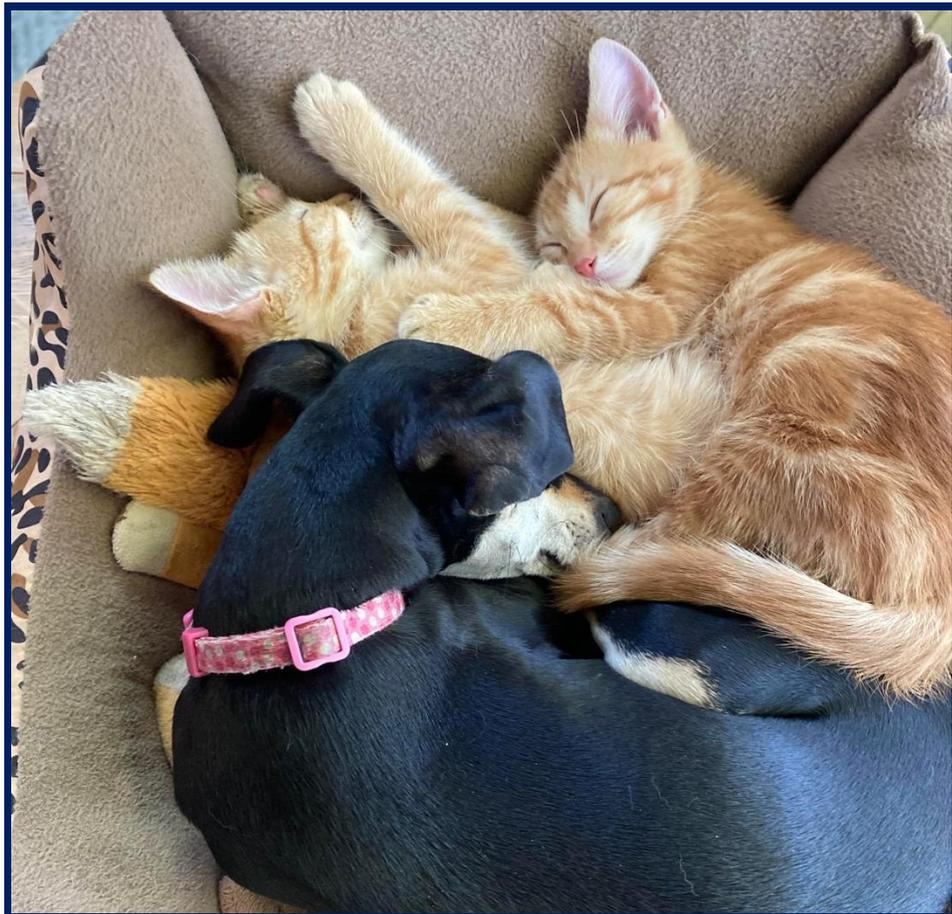


Respite Care & Pet Sitters

If you are going out of town for a few days or simply need a break from your foster pet, please notify the Foster Coordinator at least a week in advance (if possible) so that arrangements can be made. Your foster animal may stay with another foster volunteer during this time, or they may stay at the shelter until you return. Please be aware that if they are up for adoption, they may be adopted while you are away or they may move to an off-site adoption center, such as J&M Aquatics or PetCo.

If you know another RHHS foster volunteer and would like them to care for the animal in their home while you're away, feel free to reach out to them and arrange a drop off with them. The respite foster will need to sign a Foster Agreement and the Foster Coordinator must be notified. Feel free to use the **Roice-Hurst Fosters Facebook Group** (see page 8) to reach out to other fosters and see who might be able to foster while you're away!

You may use an in-house pet sitter to care for your foster pet temporarily, but please notify the Foster Coordinator beforehand and be sure that the pet sitter knows our policies, how to reach RHHS, and what to do in an emergency. Please note that the pet sitter must be caring for the foster pet in your home, not in their home. Never place your foster pet in a boarding facility or new home unless directed to do so by RHHS.



Cleaning Protocols

Regular Cleaning

Daily cleaning is necessary to keep a clean and safe environment, as dirty blankets, dishes, baby bottles, and other supplies can cause disease and infection.

Tasks:

- Make sure your foster pet is free of goop in their eyes, poop in their fur/feet, and food on their faces and necks – especially kittens and puppies!
- Frequently mop or vacuum the pet's area.
- Frequently disinfect the area with a sanitizing agent, especially if your foster pet is sick.
- Frequently change out dirty blankets, puppy pads, bowls, etc.
- Give your foster pet fresh water at least once daily.
- **CATS:** Scoop the litter box daily and change out the litter frequently.
- **DOGS:** Pick up pet waste in the yard and throw it away in an outdoor trash can.
- **BOTTLE BABIES:** Clean bottles and nipples after each feeding using hot, soapy water.

Sanitizing Your Home Between Foster Pets

As a foster, think of your house as a foster hotel. When one guest leaves, make sure the space is fresh and clean before the next guests arrive. It is especially important to sanitize between foster pets if you were caring for a sick animal. For disinfecting, we recommend using a bleach mixture of **1 part bleach and 32 parts water**.

Tasks:

- Wash all blankets and towels with bleach on high heat.
- Mop or vacuum the floor thoroughly.
- Disinfect the area with a sanitizing agent.
- Replace or fully sanitize used toys and litter boxes, especially if you previously had a sick foster pet.
- Throw away any items that cannot be fully sanitized.

Cleaning Carriers

When you foster a cat or small dog, we provide the carrier unless you choose to use your own carrier.

How to Clean a Carrier:

1. Clean out all debris.
2. Wash the carrier with a 1:32 bleach/water solution that stays on for at least 10 minutes.
3. Rinse the carrier with clean water.

Socialization

For more information and resources for behavior foster pets, see the Resources list on page 38.

If you need any help or guidance while fostering a pet with behavior challenges, please don't hesitate to reach out to either the Foster Coordinator, Cat Behavior Counselor, or Dog Behavior Counselor. Contact information is on page 5.

All animals benefit from general socialization. Below are a few socialization activities you are encouraged to try with your foster pet. Be sure to respect their boundaries and read their body language. If they are uncomfortable, do not force the interaction.

General Socialization Activities

- If the animal is comfortable, practice handling toes to mimic nail clipping – a gentle squeeze of their feet and offer them a reward. This is especially helpful for kittens and puppies!
- Bathe and brush your foster pet as needed. We can provide a brush for you upon request.
- When necessary, gently clean off the pet's fur using baby wipes or a damp washcloth.
- For kittens and puppies, if they are comfortable, practice checking teeth and rubbing their gums with your fingers.
- For dogs, work on leash training by going for walks and rewarding good behavior.
- Give them plenty of pets, love, and attention!
- Introduce your foster pet to a variety of people (keeping in mind social distancing!)
- If you are working from home or are home the majority of the time, try leaving the pet alone in the house for various periods of time, especially dogs. Having you around all of the time can cause anxiety when the pet is eventually adopted into a home where their people are not home all of the time.
- Teach them basic commands like sit and stay. You can train cats, too! Be sure to use positive reinforcement training. This means rewarding good behaviors rather than punishing unwanted behaviors.

Fearful Feline Socialization

If you are fostering a fearful cat or kitten, please refer to the in-depth information in the “Fear-Free Felines” packet and the socialization section in the “RHHS Kitten Foster Handbook”. For a copy of these packets, please email lissa@rhumanesociety.org or visit the Resources tab at Bit.ly/RoiceHurstFosters. Additionally, please search “Kitten Lady Wild to Mild” on YouTube to watch a step-by-step tutorial on how to turn a kitten from spicy to sweet. If you need additional guidance, feel free to reach out to the Foster Coordinator or the Cat Behavior Counselor!

The key to socializing a kitten is to help them gradually associate the presence of humans with pleasure. To socialize a kitten to humans, you will need to have patience and dedication. Older feral kittens can take up to a month or more to be completely socialized.

1. **Make sure the kitten has his own safe, enclosed space, like a bathroom, large crate, or playpen.** Do not let a feral kitten loose in your house, as they often hide in hard-to-reach areas. Make sure there are no areas in the kitten’s space where he can get stuck or escape. Avoid having to chase and catch them as this will make them think negatively of humans, setting socialization back. If he does find a place to hide, do not reach in to pull him out. This is dangerous for you and traumatic to the kitten. He will come out on his own when you leave.
2. **Introduce the kitten to his new space slowly.** Leave out food and water and allow him to acclimate to his new environment. Leave the room and come back later. Sit on the floor with the kitten and simply allow him to become comfortable with your presence.
3. **Feed the kitten while you are in the room.** Depending on the kitten’s level of socialization, some kittens may not eat in front of you at first. Every kitten is different and will socialize at a different pace. Offer food and stay in the room with the kitten. Once he is comfortable enough to eat in your presence, you’ve made progress! Once he will eat in front of you, try feeding the kitten exclusively when you are in the room, rather than free-feeding. This will associate your presence with a pleasurable experience. Talk to him and allow him to get comfortable with your voice.
4. **Next, pet the kitten while he eats, as long as it is safe to do so.** If the kitten is tense or defensive at your attempts (hissing, spitting, or swiping), it may be too soon. Don’t get bitten or scratched. Try feeding the kitten a high-value treat, like Gerber chicken baby food. While he eats, gently pet him.
5. **Feed the kitten by hand.** Hold wet food or a treat in your hand and allow the kitten to lick it off your fingers, considering his comfort level and your safety.
6. **Speak to the kitten, especially during feeding time.** This will help him realize that human voices are not that scary.
7. **Reward brave behaviors.** If the kitten hits a new milestone, reward him with a treat or a toy.
8. **Play with the kitten.** Interactive playtime with fun toys will help the kitten come out of his shell.

Promoting Your Foster Pet on Social Media

We highly encourage you to post about your foster pets on social media to help find adopters, recruit new foster volunteers, and fundraise! Find us on social media at these pages, and be sure to tag us so we can see your posts! For more information about our Facebook group and page, see page 8.

Facebook:

Roice-Hurst Fosters (private group): [Facebook.com/groups/RoiceHurstFosters](https://www.facebook.com/groups/RoiceHurstFosters)

Fosters of Roice-Hurst Humane Society (public page): [Facebook.com/RHHSfosters](https://www.facebook.com/RHHSfosters)

Roice-Hurst Humane Society (main page): [Facebook.com/RoiceHurst](https://www.facebook.com/RoiceHurst)

Instagram:

Fosters of Roice-Hurst Humane Society: @rhhsfosters

Roice-Hurst Humane Society: @roicehursthumanesociety

Social Media Posting Guidelines

- Roice-Hurst takes pride in being a socially-conscious shelter. This means we never euthanize due to a lack of space or resources, breed, age, or length of stay. We do not classify ourselves as a no-kill shelter because in rare situations, if an animal in our care is terminally ill or shows severe aggression causing placement to be unsafe for the community, Roice-Hurst reserves the right to humanely euthanize and avoid prolonged suffering or diminished quality of life. While these instances occur rarely, it is important that all social media posts related to Roice-Hurst do not use the term "no-kill".
- When mentioning an ideal home for an animal, use informative verbiage.
 - ❖ Instead of "Fido can be really particular," say, "We know that Fido takes a while to warm up to strangers and ideally would be placed in a home that doesn't have a lot of new visitors."
 - ❖ Instead of "Muffy is not good with kids," say, "Muffy is looking for a home with no young children because she can get easily over-stimulated and needs adopters who can respect her boundaries."

Our goal is to set animals up for success in their new homes, and it's ok if it takes time to find someone who is able to accommodate their needs. We would much rather be thorough and transparent with potential adopters as opposed to sugar-coating a behavior or medical issue.

- Please tag us in your posts at the accounts listed above so that we can see and share them!

Fun Social Media Post Ideas

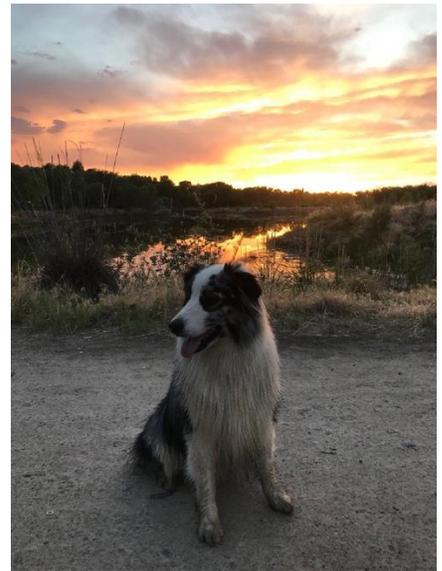
Feel free to use these fun ideas to promote your foster pet on social media!

- **Introductions:** Post a video or picture at the beginning of your journey with your foster pet. Explain why you decided to foster in the first place. Show off your new friend by sharing their name, age, and any information you've learned about what a good forever home would look like for them.
- **Dear Diary:** From the perspective of your foster pet, post a journal entry about how this experience is going each day. Add a picture capturing their good looks and shining personality!
- **Practicing Social Distancing... or Lack Thereof:** Is your foster pet a cuddler? Get a picture of them cozying up with you or a family member with a caption that this pet did not get the memo about social distancing.
- **Dorky Dog/Quirky Cat:** Have you learned any fun facts about your foster that an adopter might find endearing? Do they know a cool trick or have a funny habit? Try and get a picture of them at their weirdest.
- **A Day in the Life:** Take a minute or two to update how your foster journey has gone in a video. You can attempt to try something new with your foster, like experimenting with treats or teaching a trick. You can also show a cute part of the new daily routine such as anticipation before getting dinner or excitement when going for a walk.
- **Dog with a Vlog:** Document your life with your foster pet on video and post it to YouTube! Show off their daily routine, what they like to do for fun, and what your foster experience has been like so far.
- **Tinder:** Your foster is looking for their match, so why not set up a dating profile? Does this cat like curling up on the couch and watching movies? Does this dog enjoy long walks? Make sure to add a photo with their dashing good looks!
- **Pawsitive Impact:** How has it felt having an animal to share your time and home with? If you've had to stay at home, has it helped having a foster by your side? Has your health and wellbeing improved because of it? Tell everyone why they should foster or adopt, too!



How to Take Great Photos of Your Foster Pet

- Take photos in bright, natural lighting, like next to a window. Avoid taking photos indoors at night or using your camera's flash.
- Use toys and treats to get their attention so they look toward the camera and have a happy look in their eyes!
- Try to shoot at the animal's eye level. Don't be afraid to get down on the ground!
- Take photos of your foster pet doing their favorite activities – playing, napping, hiking, etc. Show off their sparkling personality along with their good looks!
- Highlight unique features the animal has. Does your kitten have perpetual bedhead or funky whiskers? Does your dog have a cool shaped marking or silly ears? Let's see those endearing traits that make your foster special!
- Take a TON of photos! It might take a few tries to get the perfect photo, so don't be afraid to take a lot of pictures and just keep the best one or two.
- If your foster animal won't sit still and the pictures are blurry, bribe them with treats to stay still. On some phones, you can press and hold the camera button while taking a photo and it will continuously snap photos, and then automatically show you the one that is most in focus.
- Try not to take photos with untidy things in the background, like a litter box or pile of dirty laundry.
- Once you get a few good ones, please send them to lissa@rhumanesociety.org!



How to Write a Bio for Your Foster Pet

1. Grab the reader's attention! If you can make a play on your foster animal's name, go for it!
 - *"Looking to add a little spice to your life? Meet Cholula!"*
2. Introduce the animal. Be sure to list their name, age, sex, and any other important information.
 - *"Cholula is an 9-week-old female kitten who was found orphaned in a park at only one week old. She is now big, strong, and ready for her forever home!"*
3. What makes them special? Are they snuggly, playful, sassy? What unique physical traits do they have? What do they enjoy doing? What cute quirks can you tell the reader about?
 - *"This girl is a playful, adventurous, sassy purrball who loves to explore. Her favorite activity is climbing to the very top of the cat tree so she can be queen of the living room! When she shows her cuddly side, she purrs up a storm and is the best rainy day cuddle buddy you could ask for – plus, who could resist those big blue eyes?"*
4. Call to action! Tell the reader how they can adopt your foster pet.
 - *"If you're interested in meeting Cholula, please submit an interest form at [rhumanesociety.org/foster-pet-interest!](http://rhumanesociety.org/foster-pet-interest)"*
5. Now put it all together! Don't be afraid to add an emoji or two to break up the text and grab attention! You can post this on your own social media. Please also send it to the Foster Coordinator to post on RHHS social media and add to their adoption profile.

Looking to add a little spice to your life? Meet Cholula! 🌶️

Cholula is a 9-week-old female kitten who was found orphaned in a park at only one week old. She is now big, strong, and ready for her forever home! This girl is a playful, adventurous, sassy purrball who loves to explore. Her favorite activity is climbing to the very top of the cat tree so she can be queen of the living room! When she shows her cuddly side, she purrs up a storm and is the best rainy day cuddle buddy you could ask for – plus, who could resist those big blue eyes?

If you're interested in meeting Cholula, please submit an interest form at [rhumanesociety.org/foster-pet-interest!](http://rhumanesociety.org/foster-pet-interest)



Getting Ready for Adoption Checklist

- Your foster pet must be at least 8 weeks old to be eligible for adoption. Kittens must weigh at least 2 pounds. Please let the Foster Coordinator know when your kittens have reached 2 pounds. After reaching 2 pounds, your foster pet can be spayed/neutered at Roice-Hurst.
- Be up to date medically. The Foster Coordinator will set up any needed vet appointments with you. Your foster pet will need to be spayed/neutered prior to going home with an adopter. This surgery will occur at Roice-Hurst. You will receive a phone call from our receptionist to schedule your foster pet's spay/neuter surgery with us.
- Be ready behaviorally. If you're fostering a pet with a behavioral issue, especially a fearful kitten, please keep the Foster Coordinator up to date on the pet's progress and when you think they are ready to go up for adoption.
- Send a nice, well-lit photo of your foster pet that shows off their good looks and personality to the Foster Coordinator at lissa@rhhumanesociety.org. This will go in their adoption profile on our website and on social media.
- Send a fun, creative bio about the foster pet to the Foster Coordinator at jenna@rhhumanesociety.org. This will also go on our website and social media.
- Once your foster pet is ready for adoption, our adoption team will create a customized adoption packet for them. You'll get a call when it's ready to be picked up at the shelter. This packet is what you will use to process the adoption.
- Your foster pet will go up for adoption! The next steps for connecting with potential adopters and showing your foster pet are on the next pages.

Connecting with Potential Adopters

Once your pet is available for adoption, you are ready to connect them to potential adopters. The general public can find your foster pet on our website under the “Available Pets” section. Any photos or information for their bio that you send to us will be here. You are encouraged to post them to your social media accounts and share with friends and family!

Receiving Interest Forms

If a potential adopter is interested in meeting your foster animal, they can submit a **Foster Pet Interest Form** on our website by clicking on a foster pet's profile and clicking the button under their photo. This form will contain the potential adopter's name, contact information, address, names and ages of other individuals in the home, other pets they have in the home, what qualities they are looking for in a pet, and their availability. You will receive this form by email, along with instructions on how to conduct a showing. Be sure to read the form, the instructions, and the adoption packet thoroughly beforehand so that you feel prepared. When you receive this email, please call the potential adopter within 48 hours and have a conversation about your foster animal. When you call them, ask them if it is a good time to talk about the pet so that you don't feel rushed in your conversation. If not, schedule a time with them to call back.

NOTE: If there is more than one potential adopter for the animal, please only reach out to one person at a time until the animal is adopted. You may tell other potential adopters that there are others in front of them to meet the animal, and if it doesn't work out, they will be contacted.

Calling Potential Adopters

The goal of this phone call is not to weed out unqualified adopters, but to set the potential adopter up for success with this pet. A friendly, open, conversational approach to adoption counseling makes the process less intimidating and more enjoyable for both you and the adopter. Ask questions about their expectations for their new pet, what kinds of qualities they would like to have in a new pet, what kinds of activities they hope to do with the pet, their living situation and lifestyle, and their current household members, including other pets and children. Inform them of your experience having the animal in your home, their personality and quirks, what it's like to live with the pet, any important medical or behavioral information, and what you consider the animal's ideal home to be. Be open, honest, and thorough in your conversation, including about any medical/behavior issues and challenges that you've experienced with your foster pet. If the potential adopter would like to move forward with meeting the animal, please schedule a showing (information about showings is on the next page).

Privacy & Confidentiality

Here's a tip: If you don't want your email or phone number to be shared with potential adopters, set up a new email address just for emailing with potential adopters, and use Google Voice, a free phone app, to make calls that aren't from your personal phone number. Please note that we do not give out your personal information to potential adopters and you are in total control of the information that they have about you.

Showing Your Foster Animal to Potential Adopters

Scheduling a Showing

To schedule a showing, first determine where you feel most comfortable showing the animal. You may show your foster pet in your home, at the shelter by appointment, or by video chat. Video chat is a good option for pets like adult cats who don't like to move locations.

If you'd prefer not to show your foster pet in your home, here are your other options:

- **Cats, kittens, and puppies** can be shown inside the shelter by appointment.
- **Adult dogs** can be shown in a public place such as a park. Adult dogs can also be shown at the shelter in our side yard by appointment. The side yard is located to the right of the building. If your foster dog is going to be meeting a new dog, please follow the suggestions as written on the Dog-to-Dog Introduction sheet located on page 39, or ask for the assistance of a staff member.

To use our facilities, please schedule an appointment by calling the shelter at 970-434-7337. Please bring all provided paperwork with you to the showing, and be sure to read through the adoption packet thoroughly ahead of time. During COVID-19, please be sure to wear a face mask, sanitize your hands, and stay at least 6 feet apart from others. If at any time you need assistance from a Roice-Hurst adoption counselor, please either call 970-434-7337 or ring the doorbell at the front door of the shelter.

Conducting a Successful Showing

The purpose of a showing is to allow the potential adopter to meet the animal, ask questions, and ultimately feel prepared and be set up for success to adopt the animal. Ask open-ended questions to the adopter and get a feel for what exactly they're looking for in a pet and what activities they would like to do with the pet. Offer as much insight about your experience with the animal as you can. Remember that goodbye is the goal and adoption is a good thing! Assume the best intentions of every adopter; they want to do right by this animal and will love the animal just as much as you do.

At the end of the showing, if the adopter decides that they would like to move forward with the adoption, it's time for paperwork. More information about how to process the adoption is on the next page.

If the potential adopter would like more time to think about it before adopting, they may place a 24-hour hold on your foster animal prior to adoption by calling the shelter at 970-434-7337. This will require a hold deposit. If they do not place a hold, it's important that you inform them that the animal may be adopted while they are thinking about it. You do not need to wait until they make a decision before moving on to the next potential adopter.

At the end of the showing, if you feel that you've had a thorough conversation and this may not be the best situation for your foster pet, that's ok. If you would like shelter staff to step in or give you guidance, please give us a call at 970-434-7337.

Processing an Adoption

This instructional handout is included in all adoption packets. Please use this checklist to guide you through the adoption process. Call the shelter at 970-434-7337 with questions.

STEP 1. FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH THIS PACKET. The paperwork with the title of “**Adoption Forms**” (located behind this sheet) is the adoption paperwork that you will help the adopter complete and will be returned to RHHS upon completion. The “**Adopter Packet**” contains information about the pet and helpful handouts to set them up for success and will go home with the adopter. Before doing the adoption, read through all of the paperwork so you feel prepared and can verify that you have everything you need.

- **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Your foster pet may require a phone consultation with our veterinarian or behavior counselor before going home with an adopter. Please do not allow the pet to move into a new home without this consultation. See the top of the Adoption Application, located in the Adoption Forms. If your pet needs a consultation, the box will be checked next to the type of consultation they require. Most pets do not require a consultation. To schedule a phone consultation, please ask the adopter to call the shelter at 970-434-7337.
- **IF YOUR FOSTER PET IS NOT YET SPAYED OR NEUTERED**, the adopter may still complete these forms to adopt, but the pet cannot go home with the adopter until after spay/neuter surgery at Roice-Hurst. You will be called to schedule this surgery for the soonest available surgery day.

STEP 2: ADOPTION FORMS. Once the adopter has met your foster pet, you have disclosed all behavioral and medical information, and the adopter has decided to adopt the animal, sit down with the adopter and complete the Adoption Forms as instructed below. Please read the instructions in full, paying close attention to the underlined text:

- Adoption Application:** Fill out all of the highlighted areas. If you are adopting a kitten, you must weigh the kitten and write their weight on the specified line. The kitten MUST weigh at least 2 pounds to be adopted.
- Questions for Adopters:** Write down the answers to all 6 questions and read the highlighted information to the adopter.
- Adoption Contract:** Have the adopter fill out the highlighted areas.
- Acknowledgement of Receipt of Rabies Prevention Brochure:** First show the adopter their copy of the Rabies Prevention Brochure in the Adopter Packet first, then have them sign this sheet.
- Rabies Vaccination Voucher (if applicable):** If the pet does not yet have a rabies vaccine, fill out this voucher and give it to the adopter. This will cover the cost of a rabies vaccine at Roice-Hurst Humane Society's low-cost vaccine clinic.
- Medical/Behavior Waiver of Liability (if applicable):** If your pet has a medical or behavioral issue requiring a waiver, please fill it out.
- DOGS ONLY: Mesa County Animal Services License:** If the adopter lives in Mesa County AND the dog has a rabies vaccine, a dog license is mandatory, and the adopter will need to pay \$10. Fill out the license paperwork. Give the white copy to the adopter, along with the metal MCAS tag.

STEP 3: COLLECT PAYMENT: After the adoption paperwork is complete, please collect payment of the Adoption Fee and Dog License (if applicable). The adopter can either give you cash, write a check payable to Roice-Hurst Humane Society (all fees can go on the same check), or call the shelter at 970-434-7337 during business hours (Tues-Sun 12-4pm) to pay via card by phone. Please return all payments to RHHS with the completed adoption paperwork. Please ask the adopter if they would like to donate an additional amount toward the pets still waiting to be adopted.

Here is a breakdown of our fees:

CATS:

- Kittens (under 6 months old): **\$125**
- Adult Cats: **\$90**
- Senior Cats (over 8 years): **\$75**

DOGS:

- Puppies (under 6 months old): **\$225**
- Adult Dogs: **\$165**
- Senior Dogs (over 8 years): **\$115**

OTHER FEES:

- Dogs who have received a rabies vaccine and will be living in Mesa County will need to pay **\$10 for a Mesa County Dog License**.

SPECIALS & PROMOTIONS:

- If two kittens are being adopted together as a pair, one kitten will have a 50% adoption fee (\$62.50), making the adoption fee for two kittens as a pair **\$187.50**.
- If you are adopting your own foster pet, and the foster pet is part of a litter of more than 2 animals, then you can adopt one of them for free, once per year. This can only be used one time per year. All other foster adoptions require a regular adoption fee.
- We occasionally offer specials on adoption fees. Any adoption fee specials will be communicated to you via email as well as posted to the Roice-Hurst Fosters Facebook Group (Facebook.com/Groups/RoiceHurstFosters).

STEP 4: TAKE A PHOTO OF ADOPTER'S ID. Please take a photo of the front and back of the adopter's driver's license or other ID and email it to foster@rhhumanesociety.org.

STEP 5: TAKE A PHOTO OF THE ADOPTER WITH THEIR NEW PET. But first, ask the adopter if they are comfortable with us posting this on our social media. If so, email the photo to foster@rhhumanesociety.org.

STEP 6: GIVE THE ADOPTER ANY MEDICATIONS THE PET IS CURRENTLY ON, IF ANY.

STEP 7: HAND THE ADOPTER THE "ADOPTER PACKET". It is theirs to keep and contains important and helpful information about their new pet. Please inform the adopter that they will receive an emailed copy of their pet's medical summary.

STEP 8: THE PET IS ADOPTED! They can now go home with the adopter, as long as they are spayed and neutered and any medical or behavioral consultations have been completed (see Step 1).

STEP 9: CELEBRATE! Your foster pet is adopted, and the process is complete! When you're ready to open your home again to a new foster pet, visit [Bit.ly/RoiceHurstFosters](https://bit.ly/RoiceHurstFosters) to see our animals needing foster care!

Adoption Returns

If your foster pet's adopter reaches back out to you needing to return the pet, please direct them to call the shelter at 970-434-7337. Please notify the Foster Coordinator if you are interested in fostering the animal again.

If it is not an emergency, please do not accept the animal back from the adopter without going through RHHS first. The pet will need to be scheduled to come back to the shelter for an intake exam and to be processed back into our system before moving back into foster care and placed back up for adoption.

Adoption returns are not necessarily a bad thing, and we do not make our adopters feel guilty if they have to return the pet to us. We know that things happen, and sometimes new pets just don't fit into a home as smoothly as we would like. Allergies flare up, owners get overwhelmed, financial struggles come up, other pets get jealous, or the new pet just struggles to find their place. And that's ok! We would much rather help the pet find another home that is well-equipped to care for them than keep them in a home where their needs and the adopter's needs aren't being fully met. We encourage our fosters to adopt this same mindset.



Foster Resources

Roice-Hurst Fosters Facebook Group – [Facebook.com/Groups/RoiceHurstFosters](https://www.facebook.com/Groups/RoiceHurstFosters)

Connect with other foster volunteers and stay up to date with the latest updates and resources from RHHS staff.

Foster Orientation & Resources Video Playlist – [Bit.ly/RHHSFosterOrientation](https://bit.ly/RHHSFosterOrientation)

This playlist includes the RHHS Foster Orientation as well as tons of helpful videos about caring for your foster pet.

RHHS Foster Trello Board – [Bit.ly/RoiceHurstFosters](https://bit.ly/RoiceHurstFosters)

This Trello board shows you which animals are in need of foster care and ready to come home with you. More information about using this board is on page 17. If you scroll all the way to the right of the page, you'll find a column titled "Resources" with a library of foster-related forms, videos, resources, and handbooks.

RHHS Foster Kitten Handbook

The foster kitten handbook is similar to the one you're reading now, but goes much more in depth about kitten care, including bottle babies, weaning kittens, weaned kittens, pregnant and nursing mom cats, common medical issues, how to set up your space, and much more. For a copy of this handbook, visit the resources tab at [Bit.ly/RoiceHurstFosters](https://bit.ly/RoiceHurstFosters) or email lissa@rhumanesociety.org.

Fear-Free Felines Handbook

The fear-free felines handbook is your go-to guide for socializing fearful kittens. It includes information about cat behavior and step-by-step instructions and tips for helping your fearful felines become more confident. For a copy of this handbook, visit the resources tab at [Bit.ly/RoiceHurstFosters](https://bit.ly/RoiceHurstFosters) or email lissa@rhumanesociety.org.

Kitten Lady – kittenlady.org / Kitten Lady on YouTube & social media

If you're fostering kittens, Kitten Lady will be your best friend. Kitten Lady is an education and advocacy project created by kitten rescuer Hannah Shaw. Kitten Lady creates dozens of instructional videos, inspiring stories, and cute content online and in books. Visit kittenlady.org or search Kitten Lady on YouTube and other social media platforms. Kitten Lady's book, **Tiny But Mighty**, is an all-encompassing guide to kitten care and you can borrow it from RHHS by emailing lissa@rhumanesociety.org. We also have shorter orphaned kitten care booklets created by Kitten Lady that we can provide to you upon request.

Roice-Hurst Staff

Roice-Hurst behavioral, medical, foster, and adoption staff are ready to help you when you need it during your fostering experience. See our contact information on page 5.

Helpful Handouts: Dog to Dog Intros



INTRODUCING DOGS TO DOGS

- 3.1** Once the dogs are able to see each other at a close proximity, allow one dog to walk behind the other, and then switch. If they both are comfortable, allow them to walk side by side. Finally, let the dogs interact under close supervision. If one or both of the dogs show any signs of stress, or agitation, consider taking a short break or proceeding more slowly with the introduction.
- 3.2** Walk the dogs on leashes parallel to each other no closer than 8-10 feet, either in a straight line or concentric circles. Make sure you are far enough apart that the dogs are not showing signs of stress about each other.
- 3.3** Slowly decrease the distance, no more than a foot at a time. Continue monitoring for signs of stress and bring them closer until they are close enough to greet each other.
- 3.4** If parallel walking, allow one dog to move ahead of the other in a straight line, so the dog in the back can do a 3 second sniff of the other dog's butt. Bring them back to parallel walking and repeat this with the other dog. If walking in a concentric circle, have one dog slow down for the other to sniff their butt, then change direction of the circle to allow the other dog the chance to do the same.
- 3.5** With a relaxed leash, let the dogs meet face-to-face for 3 seconds then briskly move away talking to your dog in a happy voice. Scatter some food or treats at a distance once away from the other dog.
- 3.6** Allow longer meetings in increments of 3 to 5 seconds. Ensure you allow the dogs to move nose-to-nose to nose-to-rear end. If the dogs are getting along well on a leash, you can allow supervised off-leash play in a secure area.

When all other 3 steps have gone well they are ready to interact at home

When the dogs seem ready, they can go home. First, allow both dogs to check out the **outside of your home** (your yard, if you have one), and give them plenty of time to relieve themselves before going in.

If you have not done so already, **prepare your home** by picking up all food dishes, all toys, and set up any crates, beds or baby gates you need. Some canines will defend toys that they have ignored for years.

Be aware of situations which could lead to conflict - for example, when the dogs get overly excited. Bring the dogs inside, and closely monitor them when they are together, rewarding with treats and praise, until you are 100% confident they are comfortable and safe with each other.

If at any point this introduction seems unsuccessful, keep the dogs separate and call our Dog Behavior Counselor for guidance.



SUPERVISED TIME AT HOME

Helpful Handouts: Dog to Cat Intros



INTRODUCING DOGS TO CATS

 **Roice-Hurst
Humane Society**
(970) 434-7337

Who says dogs and cats can't get along?

When bringing a new dog into your home with a resident cat, the introduction process should be controlled and gradual. If you rush into things and attempt to "force" a relationship, you might inadvertently sabotage a relationship that could have otherwise worked out. Here are 4 simple steps that can help you ensure a successful introduction:

1

ENERGY MATCH

Matching their temperament is a must

When choosing a dog for a household which is already ruled by a resident cat, it is important to consider both animals personalities and energy level. It may be helpful to look for a companion that has already been exposed to the other species in the past.

If you have a shy or laid back cat at home, then a calm counterpart would be best. Be sure to bring in a dog that will likely respect the cat's space and not overwhelm the kitty with her energy level.

2

SCENT SURVEY

Allow your newly-adopted dog to explore without other animals around

Bring the **resident cat to a room** and shut the door, while the **dog is allowed to roam** the house and explore the scents. **Swap their locations a few times.** Giving your cat treats and anything else she enjoys while in the room will help her see this as a positive experience instead of a punishment or a threat. Request the assistance of a friend or a household member if possible. Your home should have high places where your cat can jump to in case she needs to get away quickly and other safe places where the new pup cannot reach, use a baby gate to **secure an area of the house where the dog cannot go** and allow the cat to go in and out as she pleases. **Swapping blankets/beds** while they are apart and feeding both animals on opposite sides of the baby gate can also be helpful.

3

LEASH INTRO

In order to remain in control, your dog must be on a leash

Ideally you should exercise the dog beforehand to ensure she does not have excessive energy, which could overwhelm your kitty during their first meet-and-greet. With the **dog on a leash** and **the cat free-to-roam**, allow the dog to **slowly approach** the cat and sniff. If the cat hisses, growls or swats, redirect their attention to a toy or treat and increase the distance between them. If the cat runs away, keep them separated until they are ready to try this again. If the dog lunges, growls or snaps, this is likely a dangerous match, and, if you are committed to making this relationship work, please give us a call to discuss the introduction further with our behavior experts before allowing any more contact.

4

SUPERVISED TIME TOGETHER

When all other steps have successfully taken place, they are ready to interact

Ensure you see all their interactions and, until you are confident they are getting along, do not leave them alone together. **Short, supervised meetings** are ideal and you should **increase the time slowly** based on their behavior. Stay close by watching carefully, give lots of praise and treats, and use toys to play with both of them. Ideally the dog should not be paying too much attention to the cat. Some hissing or swatting is healthy as long as the dog respects the warnings. If the dog keeps disrespecting your cat's boundaries, go back to STEP 2 and repeat the process a few more times. If all else fails, we ask that you give us a call to schedule a consult with our behavior experts.

Helpful Handouts: Cat to Cat Intro



INTRODUCING CATS TO CATS

 Roice-Hurst
Humane Society
(970) 434-7337

Some people say cats are like potato chips - you can't have just one!
When bringing a new cat into your home with a resident cat, the introduction process should be controlled and gradual. If you rush into things and attempt to "force" a relationship, you might inadvertently sabotage a relationship that could have otherwise worked out. Here are 4 simple steps that can help you ensure a successful introduction:

1

**TRADING
SCENTS**

By exchanging the cats' scents with one another, you will be introducing a very important identification and communication signal right off the bat.

While your newly-adopted kitty is acclimating in his/her "sanctuary room" for the first few days, **swap fabrics such as blankets/towels** and give it to the other cat at least once a day. In addition, **feed both cats on a schedule near the door** so they have a chance to associate each other with something positive: food time. Do not free feed any of the cats.

2

**LOCATION
SWAP**

When both cats are eating well and appear calm and relaxed on their respective sides of the door, then it's time for the big exchange: location.

Bring the **resident cat to the room** and shut the door, while the **new cat is allowed to roam** the house. Each cat should be allowed to use the other cat's (clean!) litter box, food and water dishes, beds, and toys, so the only thing being exchanged are the cats themselves. Allow them enough time to explore and inspect everything they want to before putting them back in their respective locations. Close bedroom and bathroom doors at first. Do this as many times as necessary and continue scent trading and feeding on the opposite sides of the door.

3

**VISUAL
INTRO**

If everything seems to be going well, everyone is acting, eating, and using the litter box normally, they are ready to make visual contact.

While you **crack the separating door slightly** (not enough to let them through), let them see each other and approach on their own. If you have baby gates, you can stack two on top of each other and open the door all together. Offer praise and treats every step of the way if they are behaving well.

4

**SUPERVISED
TIME
TOGETHER**

When all other 3 steps have successfully taken place, they are ready to meet.

Until you are confident they are getting along, do not leave them alone together. This step is to **ensure you see all their interactions**. Stay close by watching carefully, give lots of praise and treats, and use an interactive toy to play with both of them. There may be some hissing or swatting, but if it doesn't escalate, do not worry. This is how cats express discontent and establish boundaries. If a real fight occurs, go back to STEP 1 and repeat the process a few more times. If all else fails, we ask that you give us a call to schedule a consult with our Cat Behavior Counselor.

Foster Agreement

You will sign a new foster agreement each time you pick up a new foster animal.



FOSTER CARE AGREEMENT AND CONTRACT

Animal Name: _____

Animal Species: _____ Animal Breed: _____

Animal Birth Date: _____ Animal Color: _____

Foster Care Provider Name: _____

Date of Foster Start: _____

Disclosures: _____

This contract is entered into on this date by and between Roice-Hurst Humane Society ("RHHS," which term shall include employees, successors, assigns, directors, officers, agents, and volunteers) and the above named foster care provider ("Foster Care Provider"). The Foster Care Provider agrees to the following:

1. The animal specified above ("Animal") shall remain the sole property of RHHS.
2. RHHS reserves the right to remove the Animal from the Foster Care Provider at any time.
3. The Foster Care Provider will return the Animal on the agreed-upon date, if they are no longer able to care for it, or within 24 hours of request by RHHS.
4. Foster Care Provider understands and acknowledges that the Foster Care Provider does not have any right or authority to place the Animal in other homes, boarding facilities, or with other individuals unless directed by RHHS to do so. The Foster Care Provider shall request RHHS's permission should they need to take the Animal outside of the Foster Care Provider's approved home. The Foster Care Provider does not have the authority to sell or give away the Animal.
5. Foster Care Provider understands that the Animal may be available for adoption during the time in foster care, unless otherwise stated. If Foster Care Provider is interested in adopting the foster animal, they will immediately inform RHHS. All routine paperwork in regard to adoption will be required.
6. The Animal will be provided with proper and loving care, including but not limited to food, water, shelter, socialization, required medication, and a clean environment.
7. RHHS will provide all food and other supplies necessary to properly foster the animal, while supplies last. The Foster Care Provider will return reusable items at the end of foster care. Any damaged or non-returned items will be the responsibility of the Foster Care Provider to replace or repair.
8. The Foster Care Provider will pick up food and supplies from RHHS, unless they choose to purchase food and supplies for the Animal. They will provide transportation when necessary for the Animal.
9. The Foster Care Provider understands that if they have pets of their own, they will need to provide proof of current vaccination records upon request. The Foster Care Provider will not bring into their home any unvaccinated animals, stray animals, or animals with an unknown background or vaccination history.
10. Should the Foster Care Provider purchase any supplies (veterinary care included) without approval from the Executive Director, Office Manager or Foster Coordinator, they will not be reimbursed for

the money spent. If the Foster Care Provider speaks to the Executive Director, Office Manager or Foster Coordinator and the supplies are approved, the Foster Care Provider will be reimbursed.

11. If at any time the Animal appears to be sick, injured or behaving abnormally, the Foster Care Provider will immediately contact RHHS at (970) 434-7337. If it is outside of normal business hours, which are 11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Tuesday through Sunday, or there is no answer and the Foster Care Provider feels it is an emergency, they should call the provided emergency numbers.
12. If the Animal is injured while in foster care, and the injury is caused from an owned animal in the home or negligence or malfeasance of the Foster Care Provider, the Foster Care Provider will take full responsibility for payment of any medical costs incurred in treating the Animal.
13. Any decisions for the Animal in foster care, in regard to medical or behavioral issues are to be made only by RHHS staff members.
14. The Animal may cause personal or property damage while in the Foster Care Provider's care. RHHS will provide basic recommendations concerning how to work with the Animal. These things are under the control of the Foster Care Provider and not RHHS, therefore the Foster Care Provider takes full responsibility for any damage the Animal does to property, other animals or persons the Animal may come in contact with while in the Foster Care Provider's care.
15. The Foster Care Provider understands and acknowledges that RHHS cannot guarantee or be held responsible for the health, behavior or temperament of the Animal. The Foster Care Provider will hold harmless RHHS and any previous owner or foster home from any and all liability associated with the Animal, this includes any damage or injury caused by the Animal.
16. The Foster Care Provider will not simultaneously foster for other organizations while a RHHS foster animal is under their care.
17. The Foster Care Provider will not post negatively on social media about RHHS, including directors, staff, and volunteers, or RHHS foster animals.
18. The Foster Care Provider will follow any other rules asked of them by RHHS. This includes but is not limited to confining the Animal to a crate when unsupervised and always being on a leash or in a supervised, fenced yard when outside.
19. Foster cats and kittens are not allowed outdoors unless approved by RHHS staff.
20. The Foster Care Provider will immediately inform the Foster Coordinator of any changes to address, phone number, email, and new animals in the household.
21. The Foster Care Provider agrees to adhere to all relevant zoning and animal control codes and ordinances, whether local, county, or state.
22. The Foster Care Provider will allow RHHS and the Colorado Department of Agriculture to inspect the foster care premises on request.
23. The Foster Care Provider will ensure that foster dogs wear identification that includes RHHS's phone number at all times.

The Foster Care Provider attests that the terms and conditions of this foster contract have been read and understood and agrees to abide by them.

Foster Care Provider Signature: _____

Date: _____

RHHS Representative Signature: _____

RHHS Representative Name and Title: _____

Date: _____

