



In-Take Policy for Heritage Humane Society

Heritage Humane Society (HHS) accepts all domesticated animals from District 1 of York County, James City County, and City of Williamsburg; along with any animals that were previously adopted from our facility. Wildlife is not admitted from any municipality.

Stray

Animals brought in by a Good Samaritan must have been located/obtained from within the above defined jurisdiction. Upon intake, the animal is scanned for a microchip, searched for some form of ID, and surveyed for injury/illness. The finder's name and contact information is recorded and both the finder and the animal are added into PetPoint. The finder then signs a contract stating that she/he: either does or does not know who the owner is; is surrendering the animal voluntarily; and that the animal has not bitten or scratched in the last 10 days (to the best of her/his knowledge). The animal, if deemed safe to handle, is vaccinated upon intake (Distemper for dogs [distemper adenovirus, parainfluezza, and parvo virus] and cats [Feline Rhinotracheitis, Calici, Panluekopenia, Chlamydia psittaci virus]; Bordetella for dogs) and taken to a kennel to begin the stray hold period.

Owner Surrender

Owner surrendered animals must live within the above defined jurisdiction. This means that the animal must currently live with the owner at a stable address within said jurisdiction. The owner must be able to provide government issued proof of locality (issued photo ID with address or mail/utility bill) along with proof of ownership for the animal (vet paperwork, picture, collar ID tag, etc.). If no proof of locality or ownership is given, then the animal must be admitted as a stray. The owner and animal are both added into PetPoint. The owner then signs a contract stating that she/he is voluntarily surrendering the animal and passing custody/ownership of the dog to HHS. If no up-to-date vet records show evidence of vaccinations, then the animal, if deemed safe to handle, is vaccinated (Distemper for dogs [distemper adenovirus, parainfluezza, and parvo virus] and cats [Feline Rhinotracheitis, Calici, Panluekopenia, Chlamydia psittaci virus]; Bordetella for dogs) and treated for internal and external parasites upon intake before being taken to a kennel for housing.

Return To Shelter

Owner surrendered animals must have been adopted from our facility by the current owner (if a change of ownership has occurred then the current owner will need to live in the above defined jurisdiction and the animal will need to be admitted as owner surrender vs. return to shelter). The owner and animal will be looked up in PetPoint (and updated if there are changes). The owner then signs a contract stating that she/he is voluntarily surrendering the animal and passing custody/ownership of the dog to HHS. If no up-to-date vet records show evidence of vaccinations, then the animal, if deemed safe to handle, is vaccinated (Distemper for dogs [distemper adenovirus, parainfluezza, and parvo virus] and cats [Feline Rhinotracheitis, Calici, Panluekopenia, Chlamydia psittaci virus]; Bordetella for dogs) and treated for internal and external parasites upon intake before being taken to a kennel for housing.