



ANIMAL RESCUE OF THE ROCKIES

P. O. Box 5531 Breckenridge, CO 80424 Phone: 970-389-8324 Fax: 303-648-4678
Email: arrcolorado@gmail.com Website: www.arrcolorado.org A 501c3 nonprofit

ADOPTION PROCEDURES:

ADOPTION APPLICATION FORM:

Potential adopters need to fill out an Adoption Application Form for consideration and review. They may fill out an online form on our website by registering and logging in. Once they fill out the form online, we receive an email with a link to the form. You can then click on the link to review the form.

Our Adoption Application Form gives us information about the lifestyle of the family or person wishing to adopt a pet. The questions on the form give us clues about how the pet may be treated in a particular home. Some “red flags” to watch out for:

1. If a person says they'll allow the pet to ride in the back of a pickup truck – that's a no-no.
2. If someone has returned a pet to a shelter or given it away due to behavior issues or because of age-related problems.
3. If someone has had a pet euthanized for reasons other than extreme illness or age-related suffering.
4. If someone says they're only willing to spend \$500 to \$1,000 on pet care.
5. If someone wants a dog for a guard dog, personal protection, breeding, etc.
6. If someone says their roommates will care for the dog if they're away.
7. If someone doesn't have a place to live currently or has a history of moving frequently.
8. If someone wants to declaw a cat – definitely a no-no.
9. If a young couple is expecting a baby soon or has several small children, a pet can be a financial burden as well as an added responsibility that they can't handle. We've had several requests for help from this type of home when they discover they don't have enough time for the pet or can't afford it.

ADOPTION AGREEMENT FORM:

Once a potential adopter has been approved, he/she needs to fill out our Adoption Agreement Form online, initial each item, and submit the adoption fee. If a pet has not yet been spayed or neutered (as in the case of very young puppies or kittens), add this requirement in Item 12 with a date for completion as required by Colorado state law. In this case, collect a \$50 deposit check to be held until A.R.R. receives written proof from a veterinarian that the pet has been spayed or neutered. Mail the check to our P.O. Box 5531, Breckenridge, CO 80424. The adopter can then choose to either bring the pet to one of our approved veterinary clinics to be spayed or neutered, or if they choose to take the pet to their

own veterinarian, A.R.R. will reimburse them \$50 for neutering and \$60 for spaying towards the total cost.

The pet needs to be up to date on all its vaccinations before adoption and needs to be microchipped. The microchip number should be included on the pet's vaccination record so it can be registered online.

We always do a home visit before adopting a pet to a new home. An A.R.R. volunteer may do the home visit, or we may ask for help from another rescue group if the home isn't local. Be sure to have the volunteer fill out A.R.R.'s home visit checklist for our records.

FOLLOW UP:

Call the new adopter several days after the pet has been in the new home to find out how things are going. Offer any advice or support needed. Sometimes it takes pets several days or even several weeks to adjust to their new surroundings and new families, including the other family pets. New adopters should be aware of this and be patient. Pets may exhibit stress in the beginning but will usually settle down once they get used to their new routine. If a pet seems to be in danger in his new home (i.e. fighting with existing pets), A.R.R. will take the pet back and rehome it elsewhere.

Call again after 1 and 2 weeks to check on the progress of the new pet.

Call again after 2 months to make sure everything is still going well.

After that, you may call or email periodically to stay in touch.

PET RETURNS:

Occasionally, A.R.R. may find it necessary to reclaim a pet if it is not being treated well or if the Adoption Agreement terms are broken. The steps to reclaim a pet are listed on the Adoption Agreement form and should be followed in order to ensure that legal problems aren't encountered.