

Dog Adoption Application & Contract

Animal ID: _____ Animal Name: _____ Date: _____

Full Name: _____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Driver's License #: _____ D.O.B: _____

How many persons live at your residence? _____

How many adults? _____ How many children? _____ Please list the ages: _____

What is the reason for adopting this animal? Personal/Family Companion Child's Pet
 Watch/Guard Dog Companion for Pet Other: _____

In what type of home do you live in? Mobile Home Apartment With Parents
 House Duplex

Do you rent: Yes No

If yes, please list the name and number of your landlord. *(Our staff will verify this response and their consent to have animals in the home.)*

How many pets do you currently own? _____

Please list all animals that live with you. Include those which you do not own.

	Name	Age	Gender	Breed	Spayed/Neutered
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Do you have any restrictions at your place of residence that may prohibit you from having this animal?

The First Two Weeks with Your New Dog

1. Teach your new dog the rules of your house from the beginning. It is important to remember that dogs do not speak our language and will best understand your expectations through training and management. Training and management should begin the very moment your new dog arrives in your home. Right from the very first day, it is crucial to convey your expectations to the dog and to establish an errorless training system. If you do this, your dog can succeed in learning house rules right from the beginning. If you change the house rules a few days after your dog has arrived, he or she will not understand why things have changed. Your dog may have already formed new habits and will have a difficult time adjusting to yet another set of expectations. It is much more efficient to teach your dog everything you would like home or her to know from the outset.

2. Try not to overwhelm your new dog with too much activity during this initial adjustment period. It is best for your dog to spend the first couple weeks quietly settling in and getting to know you. Limit introductions to just a few visitors, and preferably only one or two at a time. If your dog has time to become familiar with you and your home surroundings, they will be more confident when setting out on adventures beyond your immediate neighborhood.

3. Keep your new dog confined or supervised at all times. This is best way to keep your new friend new friend (and house!) out of trouble when you are unable to monitor his actions. Your dog requires a dog-proof, sage place: a “doggie den” – the equivalent of a toddler’s playpen – where he/she can rest and chew appropriate items in your absence. There are many options for your “doggie den,” but a crate or small room in your house is ideal.

Remember: always try to build good habits, because good habits are as hard to break as bad ones.

Follow these guidelines for at least the first two weeks with your new dog. Please remember some dogs will take longer to adjust so be patient.

DO immediately show your dog to his/her appropriate toilet area.

DO provide plenty of appropriate chew toys to keep your dog busy and prevent chewing “casualties” in your home and yard. Redirect any chewing “mistakes” by directing your dog to an acceptable alternative.

DO take your dog to the designated toilet area once an hour, every hour, on leash (except overnight.) Allow supervised free time only after he/she relieves themselves in the appropriate area.

DO confine your dog to a “doggie den” whenever you are physically (or mentally!) absent.

DO introduce your dog to new people and other pets **gradually** so as not to overwhelm them. Use kibble and treats to help form a positive associate ion to new people.

DO enroll in a basic obedience class after a few weeks of being used to their new owners! This will help out to understand how to better communicate with your dog in a way he/she will understand. (Recommended)

DON'T allow your dog free run of the entire house right away, or else your new friend may learn all sort of bad habits.

DON'T take your dog off-leash in public until you have successfully completed an obedience class (recommended), or until you know all aspects of your new friend.

DON'T take your new friend to public places (like the dog park, or pet friendly store), until the routine of house and bonding has been more defined.

_____ I have reviewed and understand these guidelines.

(Please Initial)

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

SCACC Representative: _____ **Date:** _____

Adoption Contract

In consideration of being able to adopt the above-named animal, I agree to the following: (*please initial*):

_____ The above information I have provided to SCACC is true to the best of my knowledge.

_____ The animal will be provided daily with adequate fresh food and water, clean, dry shelter, vet care (as needed), humane treatment, supervision, and exercise.

_____ To obey all applicable local and state laws governing the control, care, and custody of this animal.

_____ To provide all medical care and treatment needed by the animal including but not limited to annual medical checkups, vaccines, and preventative heartworm medication.

_____ To adopt the animal only as a personal pet/companion and not as a gift, working animal or guard dog, nor as a primarily outdoor pet.

_____ I understand SCACC will always take their animals back however I may not receive a reimbursement for the adoption fee.

_____ I understand that SCACC has limited information about the animal's history and can't make any warranties about the animal's health, personality, temperament, or compatibility with my household. I accept the animal in its "as is" condition. I understand that SCACC makes no guarantee as to the health, history, behavior, breed or age of this animal. I accept all risks relating to same.

_____ I understand that all cats and dogs are spayed or neutered before adoption.

_____ I acknowledge that shelter animals have an increased risk of potential exposure to disease, and therefore may be incubating diseases that are undetected by shelter staff. I accept all risks relating to same.

_____ I acknowledge that although SCACC has a veterinarian, there may be occasions where a diagnosis or condition of this animal may be dormant or not obvious prior to adoption.

_____ In the event that this animal becomes sick before I take possession, this adoption will be cancelled, refunded, or another adoptable animal may be chosen.

_____ I understand that unless otherwise stated, the animal has not been treated for or vaccinated against any diseases. I will take this pet to a veterinary office for an exam and any necessary care and vaccines within 7-10 days following adoption and at my sole expense. I will also have my pet examined and vaccinated annually, or as recommended by a veterinarian, at my sole expense.

_____ If I move, change address, phone numbers or email, I understand I should update the microchip and license information.

_____ I acknowledge my animal (if a dog) is required by law to have a current rabies vaccine and county license for the duration of its life in Saginaw County.

_____ I understand that there is a "leash law" in Saginaw County and my dog may not roam or run loose. My home will either provide adequate fencing or I will take necessary precautions, such as leashing, when my pet is outside to prevent it from running loose or onto other property.

_____ In the event my pet becomes lost, I will search for it at local animal shelters and online and make every reasonable effort to locate and reclaim the animal.

_____ I will at no time assert any claim, charge, or demand of any kind or nature against Saginaw County or SCACC for any charges or expenses, including veterinary fees, in connection with this animal.

_____ I understand that SCACC reserves the right to refuse any adoption based on the best interest of the animal or the community.

_____ I understand that there is no guarantee this animal is housebroken or litter box trained. I will take necessary steps to properly train the pet in this regard.

_____ I agree not to leave any child unsupervised around this animal.

_____ This contract may be specifically enforceable by Saginaw County and SCACC through judicial proceedings, including the right to recover the animal due to a breach of any terms of this contract. I hereby agree that in the event I breach this contract, and Saginaw County or SCACC files suit to enforce this contract or to defend any claim under this contract, that I will pay any court costs and attorney's fees incurred by SCACC in connection herewith.

_____ I accept that SCACC assumes no responsibility nor shall it be held liable for any damages caused by the adopted animal to property, persons or other pets. If any medical problems should occur after adoption, to the pet or any individual exposed to the pet, SCACC is not liable for any medical bills.

_____ As the Adopter, I agree to accept full legal and financial responsibility for the care of this animal, releasing Saginaw County, SCACC and their representatives of any liability or costs incurred from this date forward.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Printed Name: _____ **Date:** _____

SCACC Representative: _____ **Date:** _____

Initials of SCACC Representative that did meet and greet: _____

Additional Comments: _____
