



Summary of Animal Care and Control Adoption Policy

This summary has been provided to help answer questions about our adoption process.

Purpose

To ensure that animals will be adopted as pets to responsible owners; to ensure pets adopted will not continue to add to the pet overpopulation problem; to ensure that problem animals are not released to continue to be a problem in the community; to reduce as many possible problems or hazards for the new pet owner as possible.

Policy

Animal Care and Control sets standards to determine the adoptability of animals. Our goal is to hold all dogs and cats that meet adoption criteria until new homes are found. Exceptions are made if the dog or cat becomes aggressive while in shelter care or exhibits the inability to settle into the stress of shelter life until adopted. Other factors would include the pet being diagnosed with illness that cannot be treated within our funding limitations.

Our adoption program requires spaying and neutering of all dogs and cats. Whenever possible the surgery is done before the pet is released to the new owner. On rare occasions when this is not possible, a voucher is issued for the surgery and staff or a volunteer will follow up to make sure the surgery is done. Pets will not be adopted for any breeding purpose.

An application will be reviewed for all adoptions. An application may be denied if the applicant has prior animal violations or is not in compliance with County regulations pertaining to animals. Other reasons for denial may include inadequate provisions to provide a safe and healthy environment for the pet. Factors considered include the ability to keep the pet confined to your property, adequate space, and time that can be spent with the pet. Some pets must be kept indoors due to potential for skin cancer or personality needs and are not approved to an outside home.

Upon the adoption of any pet, the new owner must pay all current county adoption fees and/or deposits pertaining to rabies and licensing (ORS 433.385). There will not be any cash refunds for adopted pets. However, if the pet is returned for health or behavior problems and the adopter has taken reasonable actions to resolve problem, a request for a coupon towards another adoption can be submitted to the program manager for consideration.