

Fostering FAQ

Q: How do I start fostering?

A: It's easy! Call the Shelter at 828-685-7107 or email foster@blueridgehumane.org.

Q: How long do I have to foster?

A: Blue Ridge Humane Society can be flexible. Whether you are able to commit an indefinite period of time or only have a couple of weeks, we have many different animals with different needs. They range from kittens or puppies that are still a little too young for a forever home and need just a couple of weeks in a foster home to adult dogs that would do best in a home environment. Let us know what you're able to do and we can work with you.

Q: What if I have other animals at home?

A: If you are looking to foster a dog, we would be happy to do a staff led "meet and greet" with your resident dog and any potential foster dog! Feel free to stop by anytime to find the best fit. With puppies and kittens, we do recommend keeping your resident pet(s) and your foster pet(s) separated.

Q: Do I need to pay for the medical work, such as vaccinations and deworming?

A: All of our animals will be up to date on age-appropriate vaccinations and treatments. Adult fosters will also be spayed/neutered and microchipped. During the foster period if the animal is due for any vaccinations or treatments, just bring them to our Shelter during operating hours.

Q: What will be provided during the foster period?

A: BRHS will provide bedding, bowls, toys, "adopt me" vest, leash, collar, harness, food, and treats. Any time you run out of supplies just stop by and we can get you restocked.

Q: What if I find someone that is interested in adopting?

A: Great! If you have been trained as an Adoption Ambassador, proceed to the next step with the verbal application provided in your packet. If you are fostering but have not been trained as an Ambassador, contact our Shelter. You can either contact us or have the interested potential adopters email us at foster@blueridgehumane.org for an application or call us at 828-685-7107.

Q: What if my foster pet is having behavioral issues?

A: BRHS works very hard to ensure that you have been matched with the right pet, but sometimes as the animal is in a new environment their true personality shines. But don't worry! We have a professional dog trainer on staff that is on hand to give you tips and coaching over the phone, or you can always bring your foster dog to our Shelter for hands-on training. If it's an issue that cannot be resolved, we can always take him/her back at our Shelter and match you with another dog.

Q: Can I adopt my foster?

A: Yes, unless you are fostering a dog or puppy for the transport program. These dogs are contracted to another shelter and are not adoptable locally. If you do adopt under other circumstances, we hope that you'll continue to foster for us!