



# adoption procedure

## Ridgefield Operation for Animal Rescue

### Donofrio Family Animal Shelter

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roar-ridgefield.org

**Congratulations!** You have made the decision to welcome a new family member into your home. Now, we would like to help you with the next step: finding that special someone!

**Viewing our Adoptable Pets:** Our adoptable dogs and cats can be viewed either by visiting our website at [www.roar-ridgefield.org](http://www.roar-ridgefield.org) or by visiting our shelter during hours of operation. We encourage one-on-one bonding, so dogs may be viewed outside of their kennels, either in our back yard, in our reception room or for a walk on our nature trail.

**Applying to Adopt:** So, you have made that special connection... what happens next? Once you have decided which pet you would like to adopt, you will be asked to fill out an adoption questionnaire. We do not take "blanket" applications- each application must be submitted for a specific animal. It can take up to **five business days** to process the application, depending on how quickly our Adoption Coordinator can get a hold of your references and vet. We ask for your patience during this process as the time frame can vary based on circumstances. The application is our view into your home and lifestyle. Please give it the time and attention it deserves.

### Adoption fees:

These fees are subject to change at any time.

<b>Dogs:</b>	2 - 7 mos.	\$ 400
	7mos. – 2yrs.	\$ 350
	2 - 9 years	\$ 300
	9+ years	\$ 200
<b>Cats:</b>	2 - 7 mos.	\$ 225
	7 mos. – 3 yrs.	\$ 200
	3+ years	\$ 100

**Processing Complete:** Once the application has been processed, you will receive a call from our Adoption Coordinator. If your application is denied, our Adoption Coordinator will call you to discuss. Depending on the decision we will do what we can to help you resolve whatever conflicts came up.

**Coming home!** If your application is approved, arrangements will be made to get your animal home to you. If you are adopting a cat or kitten, home visits are only done upon request. Feline adoptees are picked up at the shelter by appointment only. All fees are due at this time.

Most canine adoptees require a home visit. This is **not** a home inspection, but an opportunity for you to see the new dog in your home and make sure that you and other members of the family are comfortable with the new addition. This is your opportunity to ask questions about how best to help your new dog transition into your home. If all goes well at the home visit, the new dog will stay and the adoption paperwork will be completed. All fees are due at this time.

**\*Please note that we do not hold animals.** Once an application has been approved (**usually in 3- 5 business days**) you must be available to welcome the animal into your home as soon as ROAR can schedule a home visit or book a pick-up appointment. Please consider any and all vacations, trips or family events that may delay your ability to have the dog come home.

**Adoption follow up:** We will contact you approximately 2 weeks post adoption and then again 2 months post adoption. We love receiving news and pictures of the animals we have sent home! We also love it when our adopters share on our Face Book page! The rescue organizations we work with also enjoy hearing news of the animals they have helped and we would like to pass on any adoption news to them as well.

In addition we are available to help address any issues that may arise once the animal is in your home. We can answer many questions in a phone call and can send out a trainer if an issue requires more direct and immediate attention. Many problems that arise within the first few days or weeks can be worked through if addressed promptly and appropriately.

**Thank You!** for choosing to adopt and for visiting ROAR. We hope that you have found our application process to be clear and well defined and that you had a pleasant experience. It is our mission to help you find the right companion pet for your family.