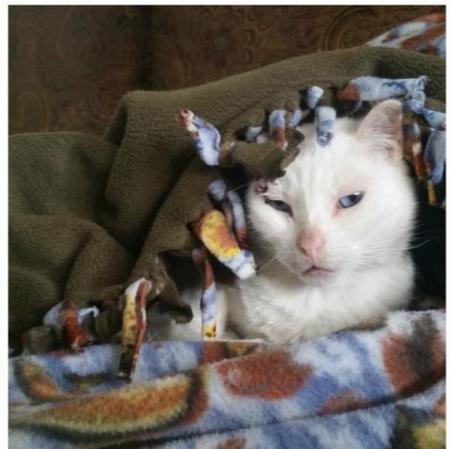


Foster Care Guide



Dear Foster Family,

First and foremost, thank you for opening your hearts and homes to our animals. Our foster families play a vital role in the transformation of every kitten, puppy, cat, and dog that enters our foster homes. Our foster program exists to give young kittens and puppies a chance to grow, moms with babies a safe home, and to give sick, injured and under-socialized animals a chance to heal. Since starting our program, foster families have helped saved thousands of cats and dogs in need of a temporary, loving home.

In this manual, you will find the guidance and helpful tips to ensure a successful transition from our shelter to your home for the duration of your foster animal's stay.

Types of animals that need foster homes:

- Puppies or kittens awaiting spay and neuter surgery
- Dogs and cats that require additional socialization and behavior training
- Injured dogs and cats recovering from surgery
- Mothers with litters of kittens or puppies
- Adoption Ambassador program animals
- Transport from other shelters

If you have any questions during this adventure, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,

Animal Allies Humane Society





Foster Family Volunteer Job Description

Time Commitment:

The animal(s) would be cared for in the volunteer's home. An animal placed in your care is likely to be with you for a couple of weeks up to a month, and maybe as long as three months, depending on the age, situation, and needs of the animal. Puppies or kittens going into foster care would stay until they are roughly 8 weeks of age, so length of stay would depend upon their age when they enter the shelter.

Duties & Responsibilities:

- Providing food and water, a litter box and litter if they have a cat or kitten in their care, and other needed supplies. The shelter would provide medical exams, vaccinations, medications, and the spay/neuter surgery.
- Administering medications if necessary.
- Providing a safe, secure, clean environment for the foster animal(s)
- Picking up after the animal(s).
- Socializing.
- Documenting any health concerns so that they can be discussed with the medical staff, and notifying the medical staff of such concerns.
- Fosters must keep the foster animal(s) in their home for the time period agreed upon with the staff in charge of foster care.
- If an emergency comes up, or the foster volunteer will be leaving town, they must contact the shelter to coordinate other foster arrangements.

Training Requirements: Initial foster training with potential additional trainings dependent on experience.

Time Commitment: Depending on age of animal, typically 3-4 hours per day.





Experienced Foster On-call Volunteer Job Description

Purpose of Position: Be a liaison between Animal Allies Humane Society and foster parents.

Duties & Responsibilities:

- Be on-call as a back up to fosters for medical emergencies and approve hospital visits.
- Counsel foster families through difficult situations involving foster kittens. Preparing fosters for the possibility of the death of an animal and helping them to cope with the loss.

Qualifications:

- Minimum of 2 years' experience as a foster.
- Demonstrate extensive knowledge of Animal Allies Humane Society foster program protocols.
- Willingness and availability to be on-call during assigned time period.

Training Requirements: Foster training and shadowing of a current mentor.

Time Commitment: About 1-15 hours per week, varies depending on the time of year.





Administrative Support Volunteer Job Description

Purpose of Position:

Keep records and files updated and accurate.

Duties & Responsibilities:

- Update Database (Shelter Buddy)
- Acquire spay/neuter dates and vaccination dates - update list
- Make files for new foster families
- Maintain Facebook group by adding and removing members
- Help schedule pick up and recheck dates for fosters
- Other duties as assigned

Qualifications:

- Knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel
- Knowledge of Shelter Buddy a plus

Training Requirements:

60 minutes with Program Manager

Time Commitment:

4 – 6 hours per week



5 Animal Allies Humane Society Foster Care Manual



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome.....	2
Job descriptions.....	3
FAQ/Time Commitment.....	7
Preparing your home.....	9
Animal Care Guidelines.....	11
Kitty care	
Puppy care	
Neonate feeding	
Fostering Moms.....	18
Basic Training.....	20
Veterinarian Care.....	24
The Finish Line, Ready for Adoption!.....	26
Emergency Protocol.....	28
Foster Program Contact Info.....	29

ARE YOU A FOSTER CANDIDATE?



TIME

Are you able to devote the required time daily and weekly to your foster animal (see chart)?	YES	NO
Are you able to bring foster animals to the shelter for vaccinations and wellness exams every 2 weeks?	YES	NO
Are you able to contact AAHS to bring the animals to the shelter or emergency care quickly?	YES	NO



SPACE

Are you able to separate your foster animals from your household pets for at least two weeks to protect them from illness and allow the proper adjustment period?	YES	NO
Are you able to handle cleaning procedure such as disinfecting your home in between animals and specific disease prevention protocols?	YES	NO



CARE

Are you prepared to handle sickness or possible death of your foster animal?	YES	NO
Are you able to emotionally handle letting go of the foster animal after becoming attached once their foster period is over?	YES	NO
Are you able to handle the potential of foster animals carrying illness that could affect your household animals and/or family?	YES	NO
Are your household pets up-to-date on vaccinations, heart worm preventative, dewormer and spayed/neutered?	YES	NO

Kitten/Cat Foster Time Commitments

TYPE OF FOSTER	DURATION OF FOSTER	DAILY COMMITMENT
Weaned kittens	1-3 weeks	2 hours
URI cats	2-3 weeks	1-2 hours
Kittens with mom	2-8 weeks	1-2 hours or more
Injured cat	1 week -2 months	1-2 hours
Neonatal kittens	6-8 weeks	Up to 8 hours
Cats with Medical needs	4 weeks to 3 months	1-2 hours

Puppies/Dogs Foster Time Commitments

TYPE OF FOSTER	DURATION OF FOSTER	DAILY COMMITMENT
Puppies without mom	4-8 weeks	3-4 hours
Puppies with mom	2-8 weeks	1-2 hours
Adult dogs/cats (ambassador)	Dependent	1-2 hours
Dogs with medical needs	2 weeks to 3 months	1-3 hours



NIBBLES & BITS

Use glass or metal bowls as plastic bowls are not easy to clean.

Clean linens and toys often.

Supervise play time.

Preparing the Room

Before you bring home your foster(s), make sure that you have a suitable place for them to stay, like a bathroom or extra room (without carpet works well). The room should adhere to the following guidelines:

- A space where temperature can be controlled.
- The space has been disinfected using mild bleach solution (1 part bleach to 32 parts water).
- Separate from other household pets.
- Can withstand messes: spilt water or food, vomit, urine, feces, etc.
- No breakable items.
- Electrical outlets and wires are blocked.
- No small items (socks, shoes, kid's toys, etc.)
- Trash cans should be removed and/or covered.
- Secured windows (closed or with a secure screen).
- Secured appliances (toilet lids closed, washing machine lids closed, etc.).

If you need to go out of town, please let us know and we will take the animal back. Our animals cannot leave the city without prior permission- we need to be able to administer care at all times.

We provide each new foster with an animal-specific Starter Kit to help you care for your foster. A staff member will go over each item and its use.

Check below for further tips on how to properly set up your foster's environment.

Cats/Kittens

- Indoor cats only (do not let your foster cat/kitten outdoors).
- A large crate or separate room (bathroom or closet) is best.

Dogs

- Dogs should be kept indoors in a crate when unattended or in a separate room.
- Dogs should be on a leash at all times when outdoors unless in a fenced area. Recommended fence height is six feet.
- Foster dog/puppies are not permitted to go to dog parks:
 - Dog parks can be extremely dangerous; there are not professionals at a dog park when conflict arises.
 - Not every dog is safe.
 - While dogs are social animals, they are individuals and do not like every dog they meet.
 - Dogs have a variety of play styles and different styles can create conflict and instigate fights.

Puppies

- Indoors - kitchen or bathroom. A baby gate is a great way to separate animals per room.
- Puppies should be around humans for socialization purposes and should not be isolated.
- Puppies should be kept in a crate at all times when not under supervision. Crates can be provided.
- Outdoors- only if supervised by an adult. Puppies younger than 5 months should NOT ever go off leash because they are not fully vaccinated.
- Puppies should not be exposed to other dogs or places frequented by other dogs due to the risk of disease.

NIBBLES & BITS

Household poisonous plants include Lilies, Sago Palms, Corn Plant, Aloe Plant and Pothos.

Supervise your foster animal when around children or other animals.

NIBBLES & BITS

Heating discs are sent home with every kitten foster. Stick them in the microwave for 7 mins for up to 6 hours of warmth.

Play with your kitten with toys instead of your hand, this will prevent your kitten from thinking you are a toy and scratching or biting you.

If your kitten is having litter box issues, try having more than one litter box in the kitten's room.

Do not give dairy products such as cow's milk to your foster.

KITTY CARE

Heating

It is important to keep kittens warm. However, it is also important that kittens have a space to move away from a heat source. Cover the provided heating disc with the fabric cover, a small blanket or towel works as well. Be sure that the heat source only covers part of the area. Small litters and single kittens need more help staying warm. Take extra care not to burn the animals.

Feeding

Follow the feeding schedule and guidelines provided by staff. You will be provided a feeding schedule to monitor and track. For neonates keep track of the feedings on the daily weight and feeding record.

Elimination

Young kittens (3 weeks or less) often need help to urinate and defecate. To do so, gently rub a warm cloth or cotton pad on the anus and genital areas immediately after feeding. This will stimulate kittens to urinate/defecate into the cloth or cotton pad. If a mother cat is present she will stimulate the kittens.

Cleaning

Kittens are usually groomed by their mom. In the absence of the mother, you must work hard to keep the kittens clean.

Dried feces in the fur can be removed by using a small comb or warm washcloth.

Be aware that some kittens may not enjoy being wet, so they may protest. Be careful of escape and their sharp claws!

Dry kittens well so that they do not get chilled. Never place a cold kitten alone.

Socialization

Socialization is a very important part of kitty care. Each kitten may require additional care and socialization.

Allow all kittens to acclimate to their new environment before trying to play with them. This usually takes a few hours to a day.

Outgoing kittens can be cuddled and played with.

Shy kittens need to have many short encounters to encourage trust in humans. Hold shy kittens calmly, stroking them and talking to them in a comforting voice. Put the kitten down before he or she starts squirming. If you repeat this often, shy kittens will begin to love the experience.

Fearful kittens will run away from you when you try to approach them. Simply sit on the floor calmly and wait for them to come to you. Let them become accustomed to your presence and when they finally approach, use a calming voice again. **Remember: Do not force interactions!**

Not all kittens will grow into cats that love to be cuddled and held. That is ok! Adopters are looking for independent pets, as well as affectionate cats.

Litter box Training

Use a low box, with non-clumping kitty litter or Yesterday's News (Clumping kitty litter can be dangerous if it is ingested). After feeding, place the kitten in the litter box. Take her paw and gently scratch the litter. Give lots of praise when they are successful. Be patient! Keep the litter box clean and away from the food area.

Foster Rechecks

An appointment for wellness checkups or vaccines will be scheduled when you pick up your foster animal, and you will be provided an appointment reminder card. Fosters will be required to come in every 2 weeks for weight checks, deworming, and booster vaccinations.

NIBBLES & BITS

Kittens sleep 18-20 hours per day.

Playtime is a must for kitten development.

Neonatal kittens are kittens that are under four weeks of age with or without a nursing mom.

Kitten Development

In the first few weeks of life, kittens are helpless and vulnerable. They are still developing basic reflexes, their hearing and vision are not fully developed, and they are unable to properly control their body temperatures. Therefore, they should be confined to a nursery area. Neonate kittens should NOT be allowed to mingle with your own pets for 14 days.



Kitty Expectations and Care by Age

WEEKS	FEEDING	DEVELOPMENT
0-1	Bottle feed ½ tablespoons of formula every 2-3 hours, overnight feeding can be every 3-4 hours. If there is a mom cat, make sure that all kittens are nursing. Kittens can nurse from mom for up to 45 minutes at a time. A lot of crying or activity could indicate a problem with Mom's milk supply.	Kittens will weigh about 4 oz. Kittens will sleep 90% of the time and eat the rest of the time. Handle kittens minimally. Newborns are deaf and blind and are unable to maintain their body temperature. Keep kittens warm with provided heating source.
1-2	Bottle feed every 2-3 hours until kittens are full, but not bloated. Overnight feeding can be every 3-4 hours. Generally, kittens eat ½ tablespoon per feeding.	Kittens will weigh about 7 oz. Ear canals open between 5-8 days. Eyes open between 8-14 days. Healthy kittens will be round and warm and have pink skin. Healthy kittens seldom cry. They are still unable to maintain their body temperature. Keep kittens warm with provided heat source.
2-3	Bottle feed up to 1 tablespoon (15 mL) every 3-4 hours. Overnight feeding can be every 4-5 hours.	Kittens will weigh about 10 oz. and will begin to crawl and stand between 18-21 days old. They will begin to play with each other. Increase handling of the kittens to get them used to human contact. Ensure that all interactions are gentle and positive. They are still unable to maintain their body temperatures. Keep kittens warm with a provided heat source.
3-4	Bottle feed every 3-4 hours until kittens are full but not bloated. Overnight feeding can be done every 4 hours. Kittens may start lapping from a bowl. Feedings during the night are not required, unless kittens are not thriving.	Kittens will weigh about 13 oz. Kittens begin to see well. They may start cleaning themselves, but will still need help for serious cleaning. Litter box training may begin at 4 weeks of age (see litter box training description in kitty care section). They are still unable to maintain their body temperatures. Keep kittens warm with provided heat source.
4-5	Feed 3 tablespoons of formula every 8 hours. Weaning of kittens may begin gradually.	Litter box training may begin at 4 weeks of age. (See litter box training description in the kitty care section).
5-6	Feed gruel 4 times a day. Introduce dry food and water. Some kittens do not like canned food.	Kittens can start to wander around the room, under supervision. Play with your kittens often!
6-7	Feed canned and dry food at least 3 meals daily. If any kittens are territorial with food, provide a second bowl so everyone gets fed.	Kittens will start to act like actual cats! Playing and washing themselves. Be sure to show them the litter box after meals, play sessions, and naps.
7-8	Each kitten will be eating over one can of food per day. Offer wet food 3-4 times a day. Leave a bowl of dry food and water for kittens to use at will. DO NOT feed kittens table scraps.	Continue playing and socializing with the kittens.
8+	Feed wet food 2 times per day. Leave a bowl of dry food and water for kittens to use at will. DO NOT feed kittens table scraps.	Kittens should weigh about 2 pounds! When they reach this point, they are ready for adoption and move forward to spay and neuter (the finish line).

Puppy Development

In the first two weeks of life, puppies are helpless and vulnerable. They are still developing basic reflexes, their hearing and vision are still not fully developed, and they are unable to properly control their body temperatures. They should therefore be confined to a nurse area. Puppies should not be allowed to mingle with your own pets.

During the first 1-3 weeks of life puppies do not urinate or defecate on their own and require stimulation for elimination. Gently rub a warm cloth or cotton pad on the puppy's genital area and anus. This should be done before and after feeding.

Keeping the puppies clean from food or feces is vital for his or her health. If you notice your puppy has food, urine, or feces on him or her gently wipe the puppy down with a warm damp cloth or baby wipe. Be sure to dry the puppy well afterwards so they do not become chilled.

Puppies are chewers! Be sure to remove all electrical cords and small objects! Provide lots of toys for them to play with.

Puppies have lots of energy, so be sure to make time for play multiple times a day!



NIBBLES & BITS

To warm nursing bottles, fill a coffee mug halfway with hot water and place the bottle of formula into the mug. After a minute or two, test formula by sprinkling a few drops on the back of your hand. Formula should be warm to the touch, but not hot.

Type of Food

Never give a neonate kitten or puppy anything other than their specified formula. (No cow's milk!)

Kittens and puppies who are less than three to four weeks old are fed a combination of liquid or powder formula. After a feeding, unused liquid formula can be stored for up to three days in a refrigerator or frozen for future feedings. Frozen formula will last for 6 months.

The powder formula must be mixed for feedings. It is important to closely follow the mixed directions: one part powder into two parts warm water. Do not use a blender to mix. Any reconstituted powder formula can be refrigerated for up to 24 hours. After that point, it must be discarded.

Feeding Etiquette

- Only use clean nipples and bottles.
- Feed kittens or puppies one at a time. Place them on a countertop and allow them to feed with four paws on the counter and with a level head. This simulates how they would nurse from a mom.
- Do not feed a kitten or puppy while on their back. This can cause formula to go down the wrong way and end up in the lungs.
- Gently open the kitten' or puppy's mouth with your finger and place the nipple on the tongue.
- Stroking the animal can help them eat.
- Pull lightly on the bottle. This promotes strong sucking.
- Tilt the bottle up slightly. This prevents the kitten or puppy from inhaling too much air.
- Do not squeeze the bottle to force formula into the kitten's or puppy's mouth. This can cause formula to move into the lungs.
- After feeding, stimulate the animal to urinate and/or defecate.
- Fill out the daily weight and feeding record.
- Please, watch these videos for clarification:

<http://www.maddiesfund.org/orphaned-kitten-care-how-to.htm>

NEONATE FEEDING

Weaning

Weaning can occur at 4 weeks and should be done gradually. Create a gruel mixture per kitten or puppy. Kitten's gruel should be mixed with warm canned food and water. Puppy's gruel mixture is created by mixing solid food with water or canned food. It may take a few tries for kittens/puppies to understand. If they are not interested, wait a few days and try again. After they have accepted the gruel, gradually thicken it by adding less water. Begin to also offer dry food on a free feeding basis.

Amount of Food

Overfeeding is as dangerous as underfeeding. Feed kittens and puppies until they are full, but not bloated. *Reference feeding guide

Cleaning Equipment

Keeping the kittens' or puppies' nursing bottles and supplies clean is vital as this will prevent diarrhea, vomiting, or infection. Cleaning the bottles and nursing nipples is quite easy. Using hot, soapy water, clean the bottle with a bottle brush. You may place the nipples and bottles in a dishwasher in the silverware rack or basket.

Additional Feeding Consideration

Never take food away from a puppy that is growling. Simply remove the other puppies and wait for the food bowl to be unattended.

NIBBLES & BITS

Kitten care videos available at:
thekittenlady.org

Puppies' digestive systems are fragile. Do not offer puppies treats! Feed only provided puppy wet and dry food.

If puppies are fighting over food, feed separately and contact the shelter.





In some cases, moms are fostered together with their litters. There are a few things to keep in mind for this type of foster situation. Moms require a calm setting with privacy and minimal activity. Stress can cause moms to stop taking care of their kittens or puppies.

Bringing Mom Home

You will need a separate space for mom with her litter. When you first bring them home, leave them alone in their new space. Mom will need some time, up to a few days, to adjust to her new space. Be sure to offer mom fresh food, water, and a clean litter box or clean nesting area.

Socialization

Even adult cats and dogs need socialization; however, proceed slowly with any adult cat or dog you do not know. Create situations for socialization, but let her come to you. Stop the session if you notice any negative signs such as swishing tails, ears laid back, head jerks towards you, tensing up, moving away, or growling. It is always best to move slowly and use caution when reaching into the nesting area.

NIBBLES & BITS

Feeding:

- Feed nursing mothers a mixture of wet and dry puppy/kitten food.

Mom and Her Kittens/Puppies

In the first few weeks, mom will do everything necessary to take care of her kittens or puppies. The kittens/puppies will start nursing very soon after birth. Mom will also groom her babies. Moms should be left alone for at least the first two weeks except to feed, clean, walk (mom dog) and check on her litter.

Possible Issues with Mom

Maternal neglect- In some cases, about 8% of the time, babies can die from poor maternal care. Some cats and dogs lack maternal instincts and other mothers reject sick or weak babies. Environmental stress is an important factor, which is why it is important to create a calm nesting area for the mom and her babies. As a foster parent please watch for signs of maternal neglect. Call the shelter if you notice mom avoids feeding or grooming the babies and ignores their cries.

Maternal Aggression- It is very common for a mother to protect her kittens or puppies and show aggression towards humans and other animals. Do not try to introduce your household pets to your foster mom as it will increase the stress of the environment.





Mouthing

- Puppies spend a fair amount of time playing, chewing, and investigating objects around them.
- To help curb his mouthy behavior, there are various ways to teach this lesson. The ultimate goal is to train your puppy to stop mouthing and biting people altogether. First teach him or her that people have sensitive skin, so being gentle is important.
- Puppies naturally train each other how to bite. When one puppy bites another too hard, the other puppy yelps loudly and stops playing.
- When your foster puppy mouths with too much force, yelp loudly. If the puppy stops biting, then praise him/her lavishly. If the puppy doesn't stop, turn your back and walk away. After 10 seconds, resume play.
- Never scold, tap on the nose or yell "no" at a puppy who is biting. Simply yell "ouch" when a puppy bites too hard.

House training

We always want to set animals up for success, and the house training process is essential. Puppies should have frequent breaks and be taken outside to the same spot to relieve themselves every 30-60 minutes when active (when waking up from a nap, after drinking or eating, and after a play session). Kittens entering the home should be shown their litter boxes several times. Kittens in large litters should have multiple litter boxes in the home to prevent accidents.

Pee Pads: For puppies five weeks and under, place puppies on pee pads immediately after waking up, after eating, and about once an hour. Praise the puppy every time he or she urinates or defecates on the pad. Change the pads frequently, as the puppies tend to chew on the pads.

Crate Training

House training and crate training go together very well. A crate can be a great tool to use for your puppy, but it can also be misused. The crate should be big enough for the puppy to turn around and stand up or stretch out. If you require a crate, Animal Allies can provide the correct size per puppy upon request. Please let us know if you need a larger crate in the future.

For proper crate training, please feed your puppy in the crate, provide a stuffed chew toy only in the crate, and/or play crate games to build positive experiences with the crate. Keep sessions short and fun for the puppy. Also, keep your foster puppy in his or her crate for short periods while in the home to show positive experiences. Wait until the puppy is calm before opening the crate as part of proper crate training. Crate should be a comfort and safe place.

Never use a crate as a form of punishment for your foster puppy or dog.

NIBBLES & BITS

After your puppy uses the bathroom outside, reward with treats and praise. Use a cue word like “potty”.

Crate games can be a fun way to teach your puppy the crate is a safe space.

Never use the crate as punishment.

NIBBLES & BITS

Runaway Foster:

If your foster escapes or runs away contact Animal Allies immediately. You may also contact Animal Control if within Duluth city limits.

If your foster dog gets loose while on a walk do not chase. Simply lay on the ground and calmly call their name.

If your foster cat escapes, place a blanket and litter box the animal uses outside the home.

Be sure to have your foster dog's collar and tags on at all times. If you did not receive foster tags, please let us know as soon as possible.

Toys

Having toys available for your puppy is vital for his or her mental health and development. Provide a range of different toys for your puppy such as squeak toys, rope toys, stuffed Kongs and teething toys.

Socialization

From 3 weeks to 3 months, puppies will learn that new sights, sounds, smells, objects, environments, and people are fun and safe. This is the most crucial period of the puppy's life.

Socialization is not simply exposing a puppy to a variety of people, places, and things, but building positive proactive socialization training. Each new person the puppy meets should be a wonderful experience with treats and toys. Go slowly if your puppy appears to be fearful of the new place, person or thing.

Training: Positive Reinforcement

As a foster parent, there will be many situations for you to train your animal. Animal Allies promotes training using positive reinforcement.

Do not scold or punish bad behavior

- Unwanted behavior by your puppy should be re-directed by noises or toy. Praise and reward the puppy for stopping the undesired behavior and giving you attention.
- Punishment can instill fear, which can lead to aggressive behaviors.
- Praise and reward good behavior.
- Behavior is strengthened with a positive follow up.

Animal Allies can provide additional resources on training upon request.



BASIC TRAINING TIPS

Socialization checklist: It's good to expose your foster puppy to a variety of people and experiences. Please use the checklist below to guide the socialization activities performed with your foster puppy.

PEOPLE	
MEN: Tall, bearded, variety of ethnicities, younger, older, men with canes/walkers, men with hats, etc.	
WOMEN: Tall, variety of ethnicities, younger, older, with purses, with walkers/canes/crutches, etc.	
CHILDREN: Behaviorally appropriate-keep puppies on the ground	
BEHAVIORS	
Laughing, talking loudly, walking, jogging, running, etc.	
ITEMS	
Vacuums (turned off), mops, brooms, bicycles, skateboards, tricycles, lawn mowers (turned off), etc.	
SURFACES	
Grass, concrete, stairs, carpet, tile, hardwood, etc.	
HEALTH AND GROOMING	
Nail clippers (not used), feet being touched, ears being touched, tail being touched, etc.	



NIBBLES & BITS

Questions about your foster's veterinary care? Call the medical staff at 218-722-5341 ext 201 during business hours 8 AM to 5 PM.

Please refer to the contact list, for after-hour emergency care contacts.

Routine Veterinary Care

Routine veterinary care is provided by our veterinarian at Animal Allies Humane Society during normal business hours. The practice manager will work directly with the shelter veterinarian to manage the health and well-being of each foster pet or litter. After hours, Animal Allies will provide on call staff numbers if an emergency arises. In the event of an emergency, contact the practice manager for appropriate steps to take.

Animal Allies Humane Society will not reimburse veterinary bills for foster animals receiving unauthorized care at local practices.

Scheduling Rechecks

Foster animal(s) are required to return to the shelter every two weeks for vaccinations, deworming, weight check and health exams. You will receive an appointment reminder card when leaving the shelter. All rechecks require an appointment made at the time of pick up by Animal Allies Staff.

Recheck times can vary per animal and are typically:

Monday-Saturday from 10 AM to 4 PM and Sunday 10 AM to 2 PM.

If you need to reschedule for any reason, please contact Animal Allies as soon as possible.

Preventive care

Kittens and puppies receive vaccinations every two weeks from the time they are 4 weeks of age until they are 20 weeks. Animals 12 weeks and older receive rabies vaccines.

A full list of vaccines and care can be provided at the time of pick up.

NIBBLES & BITS

Missed your foster recheck? Need a reminder on when your appointment is?

Email:
medical@animalallies.net

Or call: 218-722-5341
ext. 201





The Day of Surgery

- Adult dogs and cats- no breakfast but may have water.
- Kittens/puppies- feed a small breakfast and offer water.
- All foster animals should be provided fresh water at all times, even the morning of surgery.
- Drop off time for surgery animals is Sunday by 5 PM.

Spay/Neuter Surgery

During your scheduled visit, medical staff may decide your foster animal meets the requirements to stay at the shelter and move forward in the adoption program. Surgery will be scheduled for a different day. Upon waiting for scheduling, you may continue to foster and bring the animals in the Sunday before the surgery date. Animal Allies uses the following guidelines to determine if your foster animals are ready to be returned for surgery and/or adoption:

- Are the puppies/kittens old enough or did they gain weight for surgery?
- Are they successfully weaned from their mother?
- Is your foster healthy and recovered fully from the illness or injury?
- Is there room on the adoption floor?

Adoption Ambassador Program

The Adoption Ambassadors program was created by the ASPCA. This program gives dogs and cats a better chance at finding homes by expanding our reach and engaging volunteers as talent agents and foster parents at the same time. This lets adopters get more detailed information about an animal's behavior in a home environment and improves quality of life while awaiting adoption.

During a study by the ASPCA, only 7% of dogs who were adopted through the Adoption Ambassador program were returned to the shelter, compared to 17% of dogs adopted directly from the shelter. Potential adopters get reliable information regarding the pet's behavior and lifestyle directly from an in-home source.



To advertise your Adoption Ambassador animal, it is important to get them out in the community. By taking your adoptable foster out into the community, it helps get them exposed to a new pool of adopters that may not even know about Animal Allies.

AAHS will send you home with an “adopt me” vest for dogs to wear on walks. Use online networking opportunities and social media to spread the word about your adoptable animal by creating a Facebook profile for the cat or dog and posting lots of videos and photos of them at home!

NIBBLES & BITS

Pet Friendly Locations in Duluth:

- *Farmer's Markets
- *Festivals/Fairs
- *Fitger's complex (not including restaurants)
- *Patios: Chester Creek Café, Endion Station, Little Angie's, Sir Ben's
- *Parks: Lakewalk, Park Point
- *Community Events
- *Canal Park Shops

Please always consider your foster animal's comfort level with any

NON-EMERGENCIES	EMERGENCIES
<p>Please alert Medical staff: 218-722-5341 ext 201/205</p> <p>Foster phone “after hours” 6-9pm: 218-341-0592</p> <p>Step One: Call us and document (write down your observations and/or take pictures). Step Two: Will be determined by foster staff- could be to monitor if symptoms worsen or make an appointment to come in.</p>	<p>Require Immediate Attention</p> <p>Call us on the way to the Emergency Clinic: 218-341-0592</p> <p>Emergency Clinic: Phone: 218-302-8000 2314 W. Michigan St. Duluth, MN 55806 Open Monday through Thursday 5:00pm - 8:00am Friday 5:00pm through Monday 8:00am</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Runny discharge from the eyes or nose · Lack of appetite · Lethargy (lack of energy) · Diarrhea lasting more than 3 or 4 feedings · Vomiting · Weight loss · Coughing or sneezing · Lack of bowel movements more than 24 hours or straining to urinate/defecate · Swollen eyes or eyes held closed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Seizures (full body or partial body tremors) · History or witness of serious trauma; e.g Hit by a car. · Acute severe lameness, or broken bone exposed · Major wound or any fresh wound requiring sutures.



ANIMAL ALLIES STAFF CONTACTS

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Foster Program
Assistant:
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Maddie's
Fund

