

Adopted 10.22.2002

Reviewed: April 11, 2006; December 9, 2008; January 21, 2011; February 6, 2014; March 4, 2015; June 16, 2016; February 2, 2017; August 31, 2017; April 6, 2018

GREAT RIVER RESCUE GENERAL POLICIES

Care and Housing

Great River Rescue will maintain a clean, comfortable, safe and healthy environment for each animal.

Number of animals allowed at the shelter will remain at 25 dogs and 45 cats (individual animals, not units), to include number of animals in foster, regardless of capacity allowed by State License. The number of animals is never to exceed the capacity allowed by State License.

Incoming animals will be assessed to determine medical and behavioral needs and placed up for adoption once appropriate as determined by approved shelter staff.

Stray animals will be held a minimum of 10 days (including pound – 5 at pound, 5 at shelter).

Animals may be reclaimed by their owner with proof of ownership prior to the completion of the minimum hold time.

All incoming animals will be scanned for a microchip. Micro-chipped animals will be held at the shelter pending contact with the listed owner, secondary contact, vet clinic, or other listed contact. If for any reason the contacts listed cannot be reached, efforts will be made to discover their whereabouts, such as contacting neighbors.

Surrender

Great River Rescue will accept all animals that do not pose a threat or danger to the environment, health and safety of the shelter.

Intake form and number assignment for each animal entering the shelter will be completed and filed within 24 hours. This includes each litter mate, regardless of age.

No animal will be turned away because of the owner's inability to pay a surrender fee.

Adoption

Great River Rescue will use all of its available resources to care for and properly place an animal into an environment that is best suited for that animal, as well as for the person(s) involved with the animal.

Great River Rescue will screen prospective adopters using the "Application for Adoption." Name of prospective adopter will be checked against the "Do Not Adopt To" list.

Great River Rescue reserves the right to refuse anyone the opportunity to adopt an animal.

Prior to adoption, staff will disclose to the adopter all known medical, temperament and other pertinent histories.

Reclaim

Incoming stray animals will be available for reclaim for a minimum of ten(10) days. This period may include days spent at the pound prior to arrival.

Owners are expected to provide proof of ownership at the time of reclamation which may include photos, vet records, local government registration, microchip registration, or Pedigree registration.

Owners will be required to complete an application to adopt and demonstrate the ability to provide a stable home, a safe environment, necessary veterinary care and nutrition, basic training, identification and companionship for the pet.

A reclaim fee will be charged based on the number of days the animal stays at the shelter. The maximum cost will not exceed the standard species specific adoption fee.

Animals may be spayed/neutered prior to being reclaimed by the owner.

Spay/Neuter

Great River Rescue will spay or neuter all animals prior to adoption. Micro-chipped animals will not be spayed/neutered until it is cleared for adoption.

While the preference is to wait until 16 weeks, animals under 12 weeks of age will not be spayed or neutered without review/approval by the Animal Welfare Committee.

No animal showing signs of, or is suspected of being pregnant will be spayed unless the mother's health is severely compromised, per veterinary determination.