Adoption Returns

As a no-kill facility, successful adoptions are the only way to create space to bring in additional homeless animals. Every attempt is made to keep pets with their owners via our successful feline and canine programs that provide behavior counseling and training.

Unfortunately, due to limited space and resources, HSSC is not able to accommodate all requests. There is no guarantee your adopted pet will be readmitted to HSSC.

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. What if I encounter behavior challenges with my newly adopted furry friend?
   Often, there are wide variances in the length of time it takes for a dog or cat to feel comfortable and secure. Some animals adjust in a few days, but most take several weeks, and some need months before they feel safe enough to fully relax.

   For behavior concerns, our K-9 Behavior Specialist and our Feline Specialist are available to help you work through any issues during the adjustment period of bringing a new pet into your home.

2. If I am no longer able to care for my adopted pet—what then?
   First, please do all you can to rehome your animal because it is so stressful for them to return to a shelter. If you have transferred care of your adopted pet to another party, please contact us at 941.955.4131 and provide us the name and address of the new owner so that we can correct our records.

3. If my efforts to rehome are not successful, will you take my adopted pet back?
   To have your pet considered for surrender, you are required to complete a feline or canine surrender form. This form is available online at www.hssc.org or may be picked up at HSSC. HSSC reviews every surrender form that is submitted.

   If we are able to accommodate your request, we will contact you by phone and place your pet on a wait list. Once space becomes available in the shelter, we will schedule an appointment to surrender your adopted pet. However, an appointment does not guarantee readmission.

   HSSC will notify pet owners via email if we cannot accommodate the request for surrender.

All animal surrenders/returns are by appointment only. No walk-ins will be admitted.

Adopter’s Signature: ___________________________ Date: _____________