

## WESTIE RESCUE MICHIGAN CHECKLIST FOR ADOPTERS

| CHECK | ITEM                       | DETAIL  |
|-------|----------------------------|---|
| _____ | FOLDER                     | The folder will be provided to you. You will make sure it contains the following items when it goes to the adopter:   |
| _____ | MEDICAL RECORDS            | From your Foster Binder, block identifying information and make photocopies to provide to adopter.<br>From Foster Care Period: Provide copies of all medical records including<br>- bills - blood panel results - spay/neuter certificate- any test results<br>- vaccination records (Health Certificate) - any other records<br>Email or mail copy of bills to Treasurer/Delegate and to Coordinator immediately. Keep a copy for yourself if you want want want one.  |
| _____ | HEARTWORM PREV PILLS       | Two Sentinel Spectrums will come to you in the packet. If not, buy two. Give one immediately and tape the other on to the folder pocket with the date to be given written on it.  |
| _____ | MICROCHIP PAPERS           | If dog came in with chip, record this chip on the paperwork and make sure to have Coordinator register it<br>If one was inserted in your care: If vet charged for registration, contact vet office and provide registration info.<br>If vet did not charge for registration, fill out the paperwork and send to Coordinator for registration. Give chip # to Maggie<br>Maggie Pietrzak so she can register it.  |
| _____ | DIARY                      | Keep a daily diary of the dog's activity and progress. Tell of training, and events. Give them a feeling for what the dog was like while in care. This will help them see what is normal for a dog going into a new situation and will give them a feeling of "history". (Days can be grouped if dog is in care for a longer stay.)   |
| _____ | PHOTO ALBUM                | Take photos of the dog on a regular basis. Include photos of people and other pets in the dog's life. Take "before" photos prior to grooming and "after" photos. Groom early so most photos are of a cared for dog. You can print on hard stock, supply a photo album or, if the adopters use a computer, you can provide on a disk.<br>If the dog is in bad shape, be sure to get before photos showing the problem areas.   |
| _____ | CALENDAR PHOTO             | Once groomed, be sure to get at least one really good HEAD SHOT of the dog for the calendar. This means a good look at the dog's face but it doesn't need to be posed. It is used for fundraising and advertising so must be appealing. It is also used on the website album, Petfinder, Events booklets, newsletters, etc. It can make a huge difference in the ability to find a home for a dog. Send the large version of photos to Barb Engerer.  |
| _____ | CONTRACT                   | Prepare the contract beforehand. Make two copies and get signatures on both.<br>- Go over contract, paragraph by paragraph, and explain what they are agreeing to in each paragraph.<br>-Have them initial the paragraph about returning the dog to us if they cannot keep it.<br>-Have them initial the spot about suing in Oakland County<br>- DATE the contract on first and last pages (This often gets missed!)<br>-SIGNATURES - Make sure all owners sign it and not just one. If only 1 of a couple sign, the dog belongs to that 1 person and must come back to us in the event of their death. It will not go to the spouse unless the spouse also signs. If both sign and there is a divorce, the dog will be part of the divorce settlement. If the owner has passed, the appropriate signer is the court-appointed executor of the will.<br>-Have the adopter sign any addendum(s) after you cover them on the detail contained within.<br>-DO NOT give the original surrender paperwork to the adopter. We never let the adopter know who the original owner of the dog was or vice versa.<br>-KEEP a copy with original signatures and give a copy to the adopters. |
| _____ | INFO FOR ADOPTERS          | Prepare this form beforehand. Make two copies and get signatures on both. This proves we have told them everything we know about the dog. When you fill this out, you must be honest and forthcoming.<br>KEEP a copy with the original signatures and give a copy to the adopters.  |
| _____ | WILL ATT. FORM             | Go over this with the adopters as part of the contract review. Make sure they know if they die or are unable to keep the dog, the dog comes back to us. IF they have named someone to keep the dog, we will honor their request IF that person applies for adoption and they pass the same reviews that the adopter did. It is often the case that the dog doesn't ever physically come back to us. But we do require that the new person formally adopt the dog through us by signing the appropriate paperwork.   |
| _____ | NEWSLETTER                 | CLUB: Give them the link and let them know they can reach it via the Club website<br>RESCUE: Direct them to the Rescue Website for the newsletter and let them know it will be mailed to them every December  |
| _____ | CLUB MEMBERSHIP            | Give them the copies of the Club membership applications and the cover sheet that explains them. Encourage them to join. Remember: First year of membership is free for adopters.   |
| _____ | AKC PKG                    | Give them the AKC package which includes the P.A.L. form. Encourage them to register their dog in P.A.L. so the dog can then enter obedience, rally, earthdog or any other AKC sport.   |
| _____ | MISC ITEMS                 | We sometimes have other items in the package such as bookmarks, information handouts etc.   |
| _____ | BUS CARDS                  | Tape cards to inside cover: Vet, groomer, Deb Duncan, Rescue card   |
| _____ | MEDICAL INSTRUCTIONS       | The inside cover of the folder is a good place to put the heartworm pill along with any other medical instructions which might be needed.   |
| _____ | ARTICLES                   | Print and include any articles that might help them with any known issues the dog may have. Let them know they will receive a CD from Deb Duncan and encourage them to print it and keep it in a binder for easy reference.   |
| _____ | FEEDING INFO               | Fill in form for what you are feeding the dog   |
| _____ | HOUSEBREAKING INSTRUCTIONS | Give them the sheet included in the packet which discusses housebreaking for the first few days<br>Encourage them to follow it so there is less likelihood of getting the dog back for early mistakes.  |
| _____ | FACEBOOK                   | Inform adopters of our Facebook page and encourage them to "like" it.   |

- DO NOT GIVE:**
- Identify of the original owner
  - Registration paperwork or copies of this paperwork. (Send these to the coordinator if they exist. They may not be passed on to adopters.)
  - Anything that came with the dog that looks dangerous (old ratty rope tugs, etc.)

**PHYSICAL ITEMS**

SCARF, BAG/  
BLANKET ETC. If these things were included in the packet, pass them along as a gift to the dog.

DOG -Clean, well groomed **We want the dog to reflect well on our organization!**  
-Nice collar and leash

DECAL While they last we are giving a car decal to adopters

TOYS, DISHES, Whatever came with the dog, as long as it looks save and does not have previous owner's ID on it, can go to the new home with the dog. Check the old collar for any id and remove it.

CRATES  
FOOD Give them about 1# of food so they have enough to last a couple of weeks. This allows them time to either buy more or gradually switch.

TAG Let them know that we will send them a dog tag. If they do not have one, leave yours on the dog. Ask them to return your tag when they get the new one.

MEDS Give them all meds along with written instructions; also give instructions for any remaining medical treatment e..g, when to remove stitches, booster shots etc.

POPULAR DOG This magazine is in the packet. Let them know many of the dogs in the magazine are owned by Club members.

**OTHER ITEMS**

TRICKS Demonstrate any tricks the dog knows

ADVICE Cover anything you feel they will need help with, e.g, habits of dog, areas the dog needs to continue to work on.

FOLLOW UP Let them know that you will be calling them on a scheduled basis to check on the dog. And that eventually another person will take over and make annual checks. Tell them we very much appreciate their cooperation in this and to please let us know if their contact information changes. Let them know of the Rescue Parade and when they can expect to be invited to it.

EMAIL INFO Email to JACKIE CURTIS:  
Dog's name (original and new)  
Dog's age and birthdate  
Adopter's name, address, telephone, email  
Date of adoption  
Name of Rescue person signing contract  
Microchip number/company

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