

WESTIE RESCUE MICHIGAN, INC.

ADOPTION CONTRACT

From Foster Care to Adopter

Rescue keeps original; adopter gets a copy

Donations are always appreciated. Make your check out to "WESTIE RESCUE MICHIGAN, INC" and give to the Rescue representative at the time of the adoption or mail to: Westie Rescue Michigan, 12460 Pamela Court, Hartland, MI 48353 (We are an IRS 501c3 Corporation.)

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

DOG INFORMATION:

NAME OF DOG: \_\_\_\_\_

GENDER: \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDATE OR APPROX. B/D: \_\_\_\_\_ Microchip \_\_\_\_\_

ADOPTER INFORMATION

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACTS: PHONE 1: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE 2: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

1. The Adopter(s) hereby acknowledges that said transfer and assignment of said dog is good and valuable consideration and that the Adopter(s) covenants and agrees with Westie Rescue Michigan, Inc. with respect to the rescuing agency and the Dog as follows:
  - a. The dog shall reside indoors, in the adopter's home, and live as a family member and companion only. The dog will not be kept outdoors during the adopter's working hours, or at any other time left alone outdoors while the adopter is not at home. The dog may be confined to a room such as a bedroom or basement or any other climate controlled room of adequate size and protected from the elements of weather. The adopter is not to expose the dog to harmful objects, poisons, or other living creatures that may endanger the dog's life. The dog may be crated for no longer than eight (8) hours in a twenty-four (24) hour period of time. The crate must be large enough for the dog to stand up in as well as well as having the proper floor of the crate for the dog to lie comfortably on its side. An outside shelter such as a doghouse is not acceptable as residence but can be used when the dog is let out into the yard for short periods of time and only when the adopter is home
  - b. That no member of the adopting family has been charged with cruelty to animals.

- c. That if I/we are unable to care for or keep the dog, I/we will contact Westie Rescue Michigan, Inc. for a new placement. That in no event, will the dog be sold by me/us to another person or placed in an animal shelter or humane society, or to another rescue or turned loose to roam freely. In the event the adoption does not work out or I/we are no longer able to care for the dog, it is the responsibility of me/we (the adopter) or my/our appointed will executor to return the dog physically to Westie Rescue Michigan, Inc. at my (the adopter) expense. Arrangements must be made in advance with Westie Rescue Michigan, Inc. so they can be prepared for the dog. If there is a delay due to will probate or other similar reasons, expenses related to boarding the dog will be paid by the adopter or adopter's estate. Documented wishes of the adopter to place the dog with a friend or family member will be honored IF that person applies for the dog and passes the normal adoption screening and signs the adoption contract. **ADOPTERS INITIALS \_\_\_\_\_ REQUIRED**
- d. That I/we will properly indoor house, provide nutritious food, clean water, exercise, human companionship and care, inoculations, heartworm care and other veterinary and care as the dog requires. That I/we will take it to a veterinarian at least once a year for an annual health exam and routine vaccinations and provide timely treatment for all illness or injuries, and provide routine grooming; adhere to local governmental requirements for licensing and confinement.
- e. That I/we will exercise proper control and restraint over the dog at all times and not allow the dog to run at large. That I/we will provide a properly fenced yard or pen and/or will leash walk said dog at least daily. Because Westies are bred to hunt and exterminate vermin, they may chase wild animals, bark, dig and perform other hunting/go to ground actions and, thus require protection from harm.
- f. That in the event the dog is not currently spayed or neutered, that I/we will have the dog spayed or neutered at the Adopter's expense within 60 days of placement and provide the representative of the Westie Rescue a veterinarian's certificate evidencing the spaying or neutering.
- g. Even if a dog has had obedience training, a "refresher" course is highly recommended since it helps establish close rapport and bonding between the owner(s) and the dog.
- h. That the dog will NEVER be used for breeding or experimental purposes.
- i. That I/we will notify Westie Rescue Michigan, Inc. immediately if the dog is ever lost or stolen.
- j. That I/we will allow representatives of Westie Rescue Michigan, Inc. to check the dog and its environment, and that if at any time the placement is found to be detrimental to the dog's health, mental or physical well-being, Westie Rescue Michigan, Inc. reserves the right to remove the dog from said placement until the situation is corrected, or until another placement can be made. This includes letting the dog out off leash outside a fenced area.
- k. Westies are typically affectionate and friendly. However, no one can predict how any dog will react in a given situation, especially without complete knowledge of its life experiences. Therefore, adoptive owners are encouraged to exercise caution in introducing an adoptive dog into new situations until it has become adjusted to its new environment. It is strongly recommended that ALL interaction between dogs and children be monitored by an adult at all times.

**\*\*\* (Check here if there is an addendum ).\*\*\***

- l. **RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY** I/we promise and agree to be solely responsible for the Dog; we understand that the Westie Rescue Michigan, Inc. has not professionally evaluated the dog and agree to indemnify and hold harmless Westie Rescue Michigan, Inc., agents and representatives, members, successors or assigns (rescue only) from any and all claims of liability for

any conduct, behavior, damage or injury caused by the dog to any person or property on or after the date of this agreement; from any claim or damages known or unanticipated resulting from any claim or damages arising by my/our ownership or control thereof. The dog is accepted "as is" and the adopter assumes all responsibility for treatment of any and all existing conditions or any other conditions of physical or temperament changes that may occur. The rescuer cannot guarantee the health of any dog and shall not be held responsible for any medical expenses which may be incurred, hereby expressly excluding any implied or express warranties regarding health, temperament or whether the animal is housebroken. All know issues are revealed in an addendum to this contract and/or medical papers provided at the time of the adoption.

- m. I/We agree that Westie Rescue Michigan, Inc. may use any photo taken of me/us in conjunction with the adoption of a rescued West Highland White Terrier during a rescue function, including, but not limited to the day of the adoption and any notes or stories sent to us following the adoption. I further understand that the use of such photo or story will be used to further the cause of rescue and will not be used for any other public or private reason without permission.
- n. This agreement shall be governed by all applicable laws of the State of Michigan. If any provision of this agreement is deemed invalid, then said offending provision may be stricken from the agreement and the remaining provisions enforced.
- o. It is understood that Michigan Westie Rescue, Inc. does not buy or pay for dogs. This is a service to help place Westies in new homes when their present owners can no longer keep them. This service is free, however, a donation to help pay for rescue expenses is appreciated. (Note: Some make this donation upon adoption; some send a donation after the fact. Many make an annual donation, e.g., at Christmas, on the dog's adoption date, on the date of a past dog's birthday, etc. Michigan Westie Rescue, Inc. relies on donations and fundraising to continue this work.)

2. In the event the Adopter(s) breaches any covenant or condition herein and incurs any legal costs, including any attorney's fees, costs of litigation, including costs of deposition, witness fees for expert or non-expert witnesses; or court costs; or any other expense in relation to the enforcement of any covenant or condition, the transferee(s) shall be individually and jointly liable therefore to Westie Rescue Michigan, Inc. The parties agree, in the event of a lawsuit based upon this adoption and/or contract that said suit shall be filed and heard in the

\*\*\*County of Oakland, State of Michigan. \_\_\_\_\_ (Initial) \*\*\*

**REQUIRED**

The adopter further agrees that if there is any breach of default of the terms of this contract, and the dog must be returned to the Rescue within 48 hours of written notification of the breach. The adopter has read this and understands, and agrees to this and is signing this contract. A photostatic copy of this executed document shall be considered as valid as the original.

**I have read and understand the Adoption Agreement and agree to the conditions set forth.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\*\*\*Signature of Adopter\*\*\* REQUIRED**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **\*\*\*Signature of Co-Adopter\*\*\*REQUIRED ONLY IF THERE  
IS A CO-ADOPTER**

Date:

\_\_\_\_\_ **\*\*\*Signature of Rescue Agent\*\*\* REQUIRED**

Date:

**NOTICE: THERE ARE 2-3 REQUIRED SIGNATURES AND TWO REQUIRED INITIALS ON THIS CONTRACT. THERE IS ALSO A SPOT TO CHECK FOR AN ADDENDUM.**

**RESCUE REPRESENTATIVE:** Return this signed contract to Dog Paperwork Coordinator immediately after adoption.