

## TO ALL FOSTER HOMES

It has come to our attention that perhaps all foster homes are not aware of our policy regarding foster dogs who bite:

Even IF a foster dog inflicts a minor bite that does not require medical care:

- In most cases any bite that is a true bite and breaks the skin will result in the dog being euthanized. However, there may be special circumstances which we may take into consideration. Exceptions will be very rare.

IF a foster dog inflicts a bite which is serious enough to require medical care:

- The treating facility is required to report this bite to the authorities; at this point, the dog is legally a "biter".
- This will result in a contact by Animal Control and the dog must be tested for rabies. There are two methods to do this: euthanize immediately OR quarantine for 10 days, then euthanize. Our policy is always to euthanize and test after the fact; we do not quarantine the dog for 10 days and then euthanize. We do not give the dog ten more days during which the bite might be repeated.

This is our policy. If you, as a foster home, do not accept this policy, please submit your resignation from our rescue group by sending either an email or a letter to the Board in care of Beth Widdows [bew1234@sbcglobal](mailto:bew1234@sbcglobal). If we do not receive a resignation letter from you, we will assume you support this policy and intend to continue fostering. The next time you volunteer to foster, we will reconfirm this decision with you.

The Board of Westie Rescue Michigan Inc. August 28, 2018

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