

**WESTIE RESCUE MICHIGAN, INC.**  
**FOSTER CARE CONTRACT**

(Make 1 copy of the signed agreement; a photocopy is acceptable; keep one and return the original to Rescue)

A contract between "Westie Rescue Michigan, Inc." known herein as "Rescue" and the caretakers of the dog known herein as "foster home" or "foster family". Rescue Officers or agents refer to the Rescue Board and Rescue Foster Home Coordinator.

The foster family fully understands that they are to act as a foster home for one or more rescued dogs. The dog(s) is/are the property of the Rescue only and no "ownership interest" is transferred to the foster home by virtue of this agreement. The following conditions apply to fostering of dogs while in the foster home's care and/or in their home.

1. The dog will be kept in the house or in a confined area on the grounds of the foster home at all times except when being transported to vets or groomer, or while in a socialization or exercise effort such as a trip to the park or a walk. When outdoors, the foster family will keep a close watch on the animal for his/her safety and that of others who might stray into the confined area.
2. The dog will be surrendered to an officer of Rescue immediately upon request.
3. The dog will be fed, watered and exercised appropriately. No dog will be allowed to run off lead in an unconfined area whether supervised or not; the dog must be kept in the house or in a secure yard unless an addendum to this contract specifies another arrangement.
4. No prong or shock collars are to be used at any time without express permission from Rescue.
5. The foster home will not be reimbursed for expenses (such as non-prescription food, food/water dishes, and toys) incurred in the normal daily care of the dog. They will also not be reimbursed for damages to property by the dog. Expenditures incurred by the foster family other than emergency care and treatment require prior approval by Rescue. The foster family will be held responsible for unapproved expenditures. Routine vet care will be paid by Rescue (See #8)
6. Grooming costs will be covered by Rescue if done no more than once a month unless otherwise approved by Rescue, in advance.
7. Rescue requires that the foster family have a crate/exercise pen available and used unless otherwise discussed with Rescue. Rescue will reimburse for the cost of the crate or other equipment if requested and approved in advance. The crate/exercise pen will be used at night; no foster dog will be allowed to sleep with a human in the human's bed.
8. Veterinary care will be provided by Rescue. This includes vaccinations, heartworm testing and preventative, altering dentals and any prescription medications or prescription dog food necessary for the dog. Any vet care beyond routine requires prior approval by Rescue except in an emergency situation. In an emergency, the foster home must attempt to contact Rescue as soon as possible but care of the dog must come first.
9. The dog is to be adopted to its permanent home subject to
  - The adopter being on the published application list and meeting all requirements include interviews and a successful home check
  - Positive veterinary and personal reference checks
  - Homes not on this list require Board approval
  - Any potential adoption may be denied by the Board for good cause.
10. Adoptive families may be contacted by the foster family to accomplish required follow-up checks on the dog; however, adoptive families are to be accorded respect and privacy. Excessively casual or excessively aggressive contacts with potential and actual adoptive families are not desirable. The foster home will conduct follow up calls according to the schedule provided.
11. All donations connected with the adoption of the dog will be sent directly to Rescue.
12. Questions or problems are to be directed to Rescue Officers. If there is a need to remove the animal from the foster home, the animal is to be given directly to a Rescue agent unless otherwise instructed by an officer.

13. The foster family accepts responsibility for any and all events that occur in connection with the fostering of a rescue dog. The foster family agrees to release and indemnify Rescue and the West Highland White Terrier Club from any and all claims, known and unknown, now or hereafter, arising in connection with the dog. This includes any damage done by the dog or injury to a human.
14. The foster family agrees to accept and abide by our Policy regarding dog bites.
  - In most cases any bite that is a true bite and breaks the skin will result in the dog being euthanized. The Board of Directors will make the final decision.
  - If a foster dog inflicts a bite which is serious enough to require medical care, the dog will be immediately euthanized and tested after the fact. We do not quarantine the dog for 10 days and then euthanize. Signing this contract indicates your agreement to this Policy.
15. The foster home will follow our Foster guide, complete a diary of the dogs stay in the home, complete all required paperwork, and submit in a timely manner. The foster home will evaluate the dog prior to placement. "Evaluation" does not imply formal expertise.
16. Should the foster home leave the dog in care of another party at any time, it must first be discussed with "Rescue". Normally, the need should be posted to the foster home email list and be handled by another foster home volunteer. If that is not possible, the dog may be kenneled at a professional kennel. If it becomes necessary to leave the dog with an individual who is not an approved foster home, they must sign a "temporary care contract" and that form will be returned to Rescue prior to the start of the arrangement. "Rescue" reserves the right to request a vet reference or other references; to do a home visit should the dog be staying at the home of the caregiver, and to do any other checks normally done to approve a foster home.
17. 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.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year \_\_\_\_\_  
 (date) (month) (year)

Signature(s) of the foster family: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

(To be signed by all adult residents of the home who might, under any circumstances, be left in control of the foster dog at any time.)

PRINT OR TYPE:

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

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

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

PHONE- HOME \_\_\_\_\_ WORK \_\_\_\_\_