CHECKLIST FOR NEW FOSTERS

BEFORE PICKING UP PUPPIES

Go through the “files” tab at the top of our member page and read the information pertaining to fostering.

WHEN PICKING UP PUPPIES

Bring a sanitized crate and a cooler when you pick up your puppies.

Make sure you have the following supplies before leaving with your puppies:

- Meds: Fenben, Baycox, Tylan, Probiotics, flea meds, and vaccines. Diatomacious earth is optional.
- Syringes
- Paper collars to put on puppies when they go to Friendship
- Intake and care sheets
- Food
- If you get your puppies at the farm, make sure you take a picture of the instruction sheet. If you pick them up elsewhere, Karen will text your instructions.

Give puppies water and a light meal as soon as you get home. If they arrived on the transport, they have not eaten since the night before.

After puppies have had a chance to eat, drink and relieve themselves, bathe them in Dawn and apply flea meds if instructed. Clip their nails.

CARING FOR PUPPIES

Puppies must have water and dry food available to them at all times. Supplement the dry food with canned food and/or pumpkin and homemade puppy food.

Administer medication according to the instructions you receive. Fenben and Baycox should not be given at the same time. If instructions say to give them on the same day, give one in the morning and one in evening. Wormers should be given with a syringe, not in food, to make sure the puppies consume the correct dosage. Probiotics should be sprinkled on the food twice a day. Tylan is given by dipping a finger in honey then the Tylan powder and wiping on the roof of the puppy's mouth. If you have diatomaceous earth, sprinkle it on food and mix in. It can also be sprinkled on bedding to kill fleas.

Neopar vaccine is a single vial containing pink liquid. 5-way vaccine comes in two vials, one has a silver top and contains liquid and the other has a bronze top and contains powder. Draw the liquid into a syringe, inject it into the vial of powder, mix well, then draw the resulting solution into the syringe for injection. When preparing vaccines, tighten the needle on the syringe as soon as you remove it from the packaging. It will not be tight and the vaccine will leak out if you don't.

PUPPIES SHOULD GAIN WEIGHT. Weigh your puppies when you get home. If they are very young, weigh them every few days to make sure they are gaining weight. Larger puppies can be weighed once a week. If they are not gaining weight and you are feeding them as much as they will eat, then you need to contact your mentor and let them know. Puppies must have food and fresh water available at all times.

IF YOUR PUPPIES ARE ILL

Almost every puppy will have soft or runny poop at some point while you have them. Parasites and some medicines can affect their stool. You may see worms, sometimes lots of worms, even after you have finished worming meds. This is normal. Puppies may throw up worms as well. Make sure you give probiotics and Tylan with their food.

If your puppies throw up multiple times in the same day, or if you see blood, contact Karen, Heather, or Trish. If your puppies have diarrhea that smells terrible or contains blood, immediately contact Karen, Heather or Trish. Take pictures. Karen will want to see them.

Watch for tapeworms in the puppy's poop. Tapeworms come from fleas, so if your puppies had fleas when you got them, chances are good that they will have tapeworms and they will need to be treated. Notify your mentor. If you aren't sure if they are tapeworms (they look like grains of rice), take pictures and text to your mentor.

If your puppies are losing hair, they may have mange. If they are itching uncontrollably, they may have sarcoptic mange, and that is contagious so keep them away from other dogs. Contact your mentor for meds and treatment instructions.

WHEN YOUR PUPPIES ARE READY TO LEAVE YOU

After their foster period is up, your puppies should be healthy. If there are any signs of illness such as runny poop, diarrhea or vomiting, or if they are still missing hair, they are probably not ready to leave yet. If your puppies have not gained weight or if you can see or feel their ribs, they cannot go to the shelter. Notify your mentor or Karen. If you don't think they are ready for adoption, you can keep them longer.

Karen will post on our group page asking who is returning puppies on a certain date. If you plan to return puppies that day, post in the comments how many are going and whether you are taking them to the farm or Friendship. If you do not post a comment, you cannot take your puppies.

Your puppies must be at least 9 weeks old before going to Friendship.

Puppies must have had a 5-way vaccine at least 3 days prior to leaving.

Two days before your puppies go to Friendship, take their pictures and send in an email to Shelby@friendshipapl.org. The picture should be a closeup without people or other animals. If possible, write the puppy's name on the picture. Put the puppies' names and date they are going in the subject line of the email. You may also write a short bio to let the shelter staff know a bit about their personalities.

Make sure you have completed your Intake and Care Sheet. We cannot stress enough how important this sheet is to the shelter. Double check all the dates. All meds should be noted, along with the dates given. Any medical concerns should be written on the sheet, such as an umbilical hernia, if they have dewclaws on their back legs, or if the pup has a limp (which should have already been discussed with the rescue). The first time, take a picture of your completed sheet and ask your mentor or another experienced foster to double check it.

Do not feed your puppies breakfast the morning they are to go to the shelter. They will be given food as soon as they are admitted. This will help to prevent car sickness. Attach paper collars with pup's name and sex.

BEFORE YOUR NEXT PUPPIES

Sanitize the area where your puppies stayed. You can make a solution of ½ cup bleach to 1 gallon of water. Surfaces need to be exposed to the solution for at least 10 minutes. All bowls, toys and bedding must be sanitized either by washing with bleach or running through the dishwasher. Pens must also be sanitized. If your puppies have had coccidia, the area should be cleaned with a 10% (1 part ammonia to 10 parts water) solution. It needs to sit on the surface for 45 minutes before rinsing. DO NOT MIX AMMONIA AND BLEACH. Use bleach, rinse well, then use ammonia solution.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS

Please ask questions if you are unsure about anything. Your mentor is always available or you can also post questions on our member's page and other fosters will be happy to answer and give advice. If your puppy is vomiting repeatedly or has uncontrollable or bloody diarrhea, contact Karen, Heather or Trish.

Karen Braun 440-840-5226 **Patricia (Trish) Swaney Carney 440-537-9022**
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