

Responsible Pet Owner

Being a responsible pet owner is much more than just providing adequate water, food and shelter for your pet. Domestic pets are completely dependent on their owners for their welfare.

- Owning a pet is a lifetime commitment. If you can't make the commitment, don't get the pet.
- Choose a pet that fits your lifestyle. Don't get a high energetic dog, if you don't have the time to exercise him. If you can't afford grooming or can't do the grooming yourself, pick a low maintenance dog.
- Spay or neuter your pets. There are too many homeless animals without adding to the problem. Pets that are not spayed and not neutered will roam and leave your home up to a minimum of 5 + miles and are likely to become a bother to your neighbors and can contract diseases and other dangers.
- Don't make your dog a "backyard dog". Dogs thrive on companionship and need to be with their human pack.
- Be aware of weather conditions. Leaving your dog in the car on a hot day or in the yard without shade or water is risking your dog's life.
- Make sure your home is "pet" safe. Pesticides, medications, household cleaners and some houseplants (dieffenbachia, philodendron, hyacinth, and mistletoe) can be deadly to your pet. Keep them out of reach.
- Provide veterinary care for your pet. Keep their vaccinations up to date and make sure they have annual checkups.
- Keep identification tag on your pet... it is your pet's ticket back home. Both dogs and cats need ID!! Micro chipping is good too, but an external tag is essential, it could mean the difference of your neighbor returning your pet to you or turning him into the pound!
- Obedience train and socialize your animal.
- Don't let your pets run loose. Dogs should be walked leashes. Any outdoor off leash access should be secure in a fenced area. An outdoor cat's average lifespan is 3 years; an indoor cat's average lifespan is 14+ years.
- Provide your pet the proper diet. Obesity can be as deadly as malnutrition. Be aware that some foods can be deadly, such as chocolate, grapes, and fatty foods can cause pancreatitis.
- Make sure your pet get proper amount of exercise, to help aid in reducing the risk of Kidney Stones.
- Take extra precautions during holidays like Fourth of July. It is the scariest time for pets; make sure your pets are secure indoors. Also protect your pet during Halloween.
- Be kind to your pet and show him with love... remember you are his world.
- Take special care of your pet during their senior years

For More information and or Recommendations we are available for you!

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www.dogsaver.org