

## **AT A GLANCE!**

### **Fostering Do's and Don'ts**

**Please DO!**

**DO make a commitment to your foster dog from the day he/she arrives to the day he/she is adopted!**

**DO let your foster dog decompress/de-stress in the crate and then allow him/her to settle in for at least a few days in your home before introducing to any resident pets (slow introductions) or outside family and friends.**

**DO contact Dee (Foster Coordinator) on arrival of your foster dog and weekly if not daily to update of any health or behavior issues and overall well-being of your foster. Immediate communication to Dee is required regarding ANY negative foster dog behavior. (lovemyboxerz@aol.com)**

**DO contact your own vet to see if they will give the Rescue a discount if you bring your foster dog there.**

**DO take your foster dog in the car and out in public only after you get to know your foster dog well and only if you feel he is comfortable doing so.**

**DO train your dog to use the crate, houstraining, basic training, train socially good behavior, as well as teaching the rules of your house. (Example: work on counter surfing, walking on a leash, jumping, sitting, waiting nicely to eat, etc.)**

**DO play with and love your foster dog and include him in your family's daily activities!**

**DO put your dog on your face book page but send people to our website for further information.**

**DO use a seatbelt or a crate when transporting in the car. The NJ state law requires that the dog must be "restrained" when riding in a car.**

**DO attach an NLBR tag that will be either given to you with your foster dog or mailed to you by a volunteer.**

**DO use a long line or leash for your foster to trail in your yard till you are sure the foster will not jump or climb your fence.**

**DO feel free to use a leash on your foster dog to trail in your house until the resident dog and foster are fully use to each other after the decompression phase and first introduction phase.**

**\*DO a short write up, a few sentences when your dog arrives and include 3-4 pictures just to get him/her up on the site.**

**\*DO post updates/pictures as much as possible especially as you learn more about him/her. This will draw more interest to the dog. The longer the dog stays up on the site, the more difficult it is to find a forever home.**

**DO try to attend rescue events with your foster dog, provided you feel he can handle it. This will give him/her great exposure.**

**\*Does not pertain to Foster to Adopt Program**

**Please DON'T!**

**DO NOT search for your own foster dog in shelters, Craig list or any other place.  
(We have an intake department)**

**DO NOT attempt to "PLACE" your foster dog. (We have a placement department)  
Send potential adopters to the NLBR website to fill out an application.**

**DO NOT ask to immediately have your dog removed from your foster care home.  
(Crate and rotate if the resident dog/cat and foster are not getting along)**

**DO NOT take your foster dog to any dog park.**

**DO NOT contact prior shelters, vets or previous owners regarding your foster dog.**

**DO NOT change the dog's name without permission.**

**DO NOT use choke or prong collars but preferably a martingale or harness.**

**\*DO NOT send a dog home to an adopter if he develops a medical or behavior issue just prior to the adopter coming.**

**DO NOT do Meet and Greets with potential adopters without permission.**

**\*DO NOT drive the dog to the adopter or a meeting place after approval of the applicant and the dog is able to go home. The dog must be picked up in the foster home. (Exceptions made depending on circumstances.)**

**DO NOT send home any paperwork with the original shelter name, original owner name or original vet except for the rabies certificate. Copy, then white out. Copies with removed information go to the adopter, originals are sent to NLBR treasurer. (address will be given at that time)**

**DO NOT use social media (face book, twitter, etc.) to discuss your foster dog. You can only post a picture of your foster dog on your face book page and direct any inquiries regarding your foster to the write-up on our website, request people to fill out an application, or find out further details regarding adoption on our website. Remember ....we do have a placement department that "Matches" the adopter to the dog.**

**DO NOT yell, strike or stare or use any negative training with your foster dog. Positive reinforcement training only. (Help with issues is only a question away!)**

**DO NOT leave your dog out of the crate when you leave your home. It is required to crate him/her for safety, adoption purposes, training. Dogs are den animals and will love their crate if done correctly. A volunteer can advise how this is done if your foster gives you a problem. Fun and consistency is key!**

**\*\*\*DO NOT just put your dog up on the website and never update...**

**OTHER IMPORTANT POINTS:**

**1. No question is a foolish one!**

**Please “ASK” rather than “ACT” beforehand.**

**2. NLBR reputation is rated very high in the rescue standards. We strive to continually keep our reputation intact and always looking for good people to join our group.**

**To name just a few achievements:**

**We are listed in the American Kennel Club to contact.**

**We have been on numerous local TV broadcasts and local newspaper articles.**

**We have been written up in the 2013 Dog Fancy magazine.**

**We work solely with reputable rescues and shelters to help dogs in need.**

**3. The foster home is required to purchase and use a crate for their foster dog if we do not have one to loan you.**

**4. ONLY vetting and dog FOOD are either paid for up front or can be submitted for reimbursement if the foster home chooses. Treats, training supplies, bones, etc. are all purchased at the foster homes expense. Sometimes we receive donated food which you will be able to take advantage of. You will receive a martingale collar (if one is available, or a regular collar) shortly after the arrival of your foster dog to be used for the extent of the foster’s stay and is to be sent home with your foster dog.**

**5. Reminder...we are a very small rescue. We have a very small handful of foster homes, most that have multiple foster dogs. Once the foster dog is at your house the NLBR volunteer can help with questions, and problems that may arise BUT we are unable to remove the dog to another foster home once it has arrived. You must find a way to work on whatever issues arise.**

**6. Vacations: As soon as possible, please notify Dee when you will need to have your foster dog watched. We will try to accommodate with another temporary foster home.**

**7. \*\*NLBR will be instituting a “Foster to Adopt” program shortly and an addendum will be added to the foster application for that particular program. We will be offering both Fostering programs to interested families.**

**\*\*\*NOTE:**

**We have found that if you do not update regularly, potential adopters coming to our site assume:**

- 1. ... that the dog was adopted and we forgot to remove him/her from the site.**
- 2. ... that any “issues” mentioned in previous posts are not improving.**
- 3. ... they are worried that there is something wrong with the dog and we are just not posting to avoid mentioning it.**

**The longer the dog stays on the website, the more difficult it is to get the dog adopted.**

**You always want to be as truthful as possible but any negative issues you choose to mention make as “light” as possible. You can work on that issue and then update in a future posting. (If you don’t know how to approach a training issue, another volunteer will help you)**

**Once your application for fostering has been approved, we will match a foster dog to your home. Please review the foster manual and if you have any questions please don’t hesitate to ask.**

**My home check person or NLBR volunteer has reviewed and explained all the above points of fostering. I agree to follow the “AT A GLANCE Do’s and Don’ts of Fostering and Other Important Points” sheet.**

**Name:**

**Date:**

