



## Welcome Packet

First and foremost, THANK YOU for gifting your time to our shelter dogs! By taking them out for just a few hours a day, you are helping our temporary residents release pent up energy as well as get some mental stimulation by experiencing new places and people! As a result of the Doggy Day Out Program, our dogs are less anxious when they meet potential adopters and they gain useful life skills that they wouldn't get in the shelter environment. Plus, you'll be helping people in the community meet our available animals!

### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND CONTACTS

**For general questions/emergencies/non-emergencies:**

Call our Adoption Line  
(772) 388-3331 prompt 1

**In case of a medical emergency:**

Please call HSVB's Pet Clinic at (727) 388-3331 prompt 3  
and return the dog immediately.

*\*\*\*All visits to the emergency hospital must be approved in advance\*\*\**

If approved, please immediately transport the dog to:

**Veterinary Medical Center**

1833 US-1, Vero Beach, FL 32960  
(772) 217-4771

**Treasure Coast Animal Emergency Hospital**

6580 69th St., Vero Beach, FL 32967  
(772) 569-4500

## DROP OFF

Dogs must be returned to HSVB at least 30 minutes prior to closing.  
**Monday – Friday: 11:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.**  
**Saturday and Sunday 11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

## EMERGENCIES THAT REQUIRE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION:

- Sudden or blowout diarrhea where dog has no control at all
- Extreme dehydration – if you pinch the skin and the skin remains tented for 5 seconds. (The eyes may appear to be sunken in. The gums will feel dry or tacky.)
- Excessive vomiting or vomiting blood or green or yellow bile
- Vomiting combined with diarrhea and lethargy
- Difficulty breathing or very shallow or labored breathing
- Extreme lethargy - dog is barely moving or not moving at all
- Swelling of the face or eyes
- Prolapsed rectum
- Ingestion of something toxic
- Swollen or broken limbs
- Seizures
- Uncontrolled bleeding
- Sudden disorientation or loss of coordination
- Anything else that makes you think the dog is in pain or in danger of passing away

*\*Non-emergency concerns can be noted at the time of drop off.*

## BEFORE YOU PICK UP YOUR DOG:

- Be prepared for anything. Remember, we don't know what many of these dogs have been through. We don't know their past, we don't know how they have been treated, we don't know how their living situation once was, and most importantly, we don't know their true personality. All we do know is what we see here at our facility and what little (if any) information their previous caretaker provided. We try our very best to match you with a dog that we think will do well with you, but your dog may have a very different personality once they are comfortable.
- Prepare your vehicle with the appropriate amount of space for the dog. Depending on the dog, you may need enough space for a size appropriate crate, a friend to help contain the dog to the back seat, or a barrier to avoid the dog from getting to the driver and passenger's seat.
- Please plan to leave your own dog at home! The goal of our day trips is to give the dog a break from the shelter and some one-on-one time with humans. Although some of our shelter dogs do well with other dogs and enjoy doggy playtime, we prefer these field trips be geared towards interacting with humans and not with other dogs. **HSV B is not liable for the treatment or cost of vet bills incurred for your own pets at your private veterinarian.**
- If you plan to take your dog home, please check your fence line and property for holes, loose planks, poisonous plants, foxtails, and dangerous household items. Even if you have/had a dog that has never gotten loose, please don't assume that your property is secure.

**HSV B will provide you with a leash, collar or harness, ID tag, doggy seat belt, poop bags, water bowl and crate if needed.**

## IF YOUR DOG GETS LOOSE:

Sometimes despite our best intentions, a dog will get loose. Please try not to panic. If you can see the dog, try calling them. Some of our more social dogs may come right to you, but very often even social dogs get frightened once they get loose. You may have more success calling them to get their attention and then walking the opposite direction, kneeling down and digging in the dirt like you've just found something extremely interesting.

Reaching for a scared dog will often cause them to bolt and may also result in a bite, so please use caution and only reach for the dog if you feel you can safely do so. If the dog is in an area that is secured but is so scared that they are growling at you, please call us so that we can help! If the dog is already in a flat out run and is panicked, they may not respond to you at all. Please try following them from a distance so that you can see the direction they are going and hopefully catch up to them once they have slowed down. If they enter a yard, garage, etc., please secure the area to make sure they can't bolt again before attempting to lure them to you.

We understand that every circumstance is different and that luring your dog to you may not be possible, please call us at (772) 388-3331 prompt 1 if this is the case!

## IF A BITE OCCURS:

If the dog bites any animal or person (you included), please call (772) 388-3331 prompt 1. If the dog bites a stranger or another dog, please take all of their information so that we can contact them to fill out the appropriate paperwork. We will need you to document what happened and the location and severity of the wound. We are required by law to report any bites that break skin to the appropriate animal control agency. We will also need to follow state laws for quarantine. A bite is not an automatic reason for euthanasia, so please do not hesitate reporting it. You will need to return the dog to the shelter immediately after the incident. If you are seeing any signs of aggression, even if it is very minor, please contact us at (772) 388-3331 prompt 1.

## IF SOMEONE IS INTERESTED IN ADOPTING:

If you encounter someone who is interested in adopting the dog you have out, please give them all the information you know about the dog. Tell them to call one of our Adoption Counselors at (772) 388-3331 prompt 1 for more information. In general, the adoption fee for adult dogs is \$80 and includes vaccinations, microchipping, spay/neuter surgeries, and more.

## AS A PARTICIPANT YOU MUST AGREE TO:

- Have the dog under YOUR supervision at all times
- Never leave children unattended with any dog
- Inform us if the dog bites any animal or person (you included) right away
- Keep the dog on leash unless confined in your secured home/backyard
- Do not take the dog to off-leash dog areas, dog parks, or do dog introductions while on your outing
- Pick up and return the dog at the agreed upon times
- Transport the dog in a safe manner by either being in a crate or safely restrained in a back seat
- Report any behavior or medical concerns to HSVB
- Keep the dog safe by providing adequate rest, shade, shelter and water
- Utilize only positive reinforcement training (do not verbally or physically punish the dog)
- Have a charged cell phone with you at all times that can be used to contact you
- Must wear supplied adopt me vest while in public
- Present the dog in a positive way to potential adopters and members of the public



**We want to hear all about your adventure! Any pictures you send us can be used to help find our dogs awesome forever homes!**

**If you post pics on social, please tag us:**

Facebook: @hsvbirc

Instagram: @hsvbirc

Use the hashtag #HSVBdoggydayout

You can also send photos to [mmorton@hsvb.org](mailto:mmorton@hsvb.org)!

