

# Carteret County Humane Society

## DOG WALKING 101

### 1) Taking a dog out

- a) Close the inside door. (Door separating inside/outside kennels) This is the universal side for walkers and staff that a dog is out and not missing.
- b) Remove clip from kennel door.
- c) Open kennel door enough for you to enter.
- d) Once they are calm/manageable, leash your dog using slip lead leash pushing the stopper down so they can't slip out once they are calm. If they are jumping, ask them to sit. You can also pet them and talk to them to get them calm.
- e) Exit the kennel first, using your body as a barrier between the dog beside yours and your dog.
- f) Hold dog close to your leg on your left side. DO NOT allow them to lunge at other dogs when passing kennels.
- g) Exit out the OUT door.
- h) If written on white board on dog's kennel, "walk through tub room", this dog needs to be walked through the front on the main house, through the tub room. NOT through the back doors.

### 2) Exercising Your Dog

- a) Walking –
  - i) Hibbs Road – Road leading to Hibbs Road, do not go past yellow gate.
  - ii) Out back – if walking in this area, do not allow your dog to approach the dogs in the runs
- b) Runs
  - i) CLOSE and CLIP BOTH gates before removing your leash
  - ii) Do not allow dogs to interact with dogs being walked
  - iii) Interact with your dog – throw the ball, pet, cuddle, teach commands
  - iv) Know where your dog is at all times – some dogs can jump the fences
  - v) A dog is NEVER to be left unattended in a run.

### 3) Taking your dog In

- a) ALWAYS use the IN door.
- b) Walk dog on your left side close to your leg, do not allow to approach dogs in kennels.
- c) Using your body as a barrier between your dog and the dog beside it, open the kennel door and allow your dog to pass in front of you.
- d) Close kennel door and remove leash.
- e) Open the kennel door and exit. If you have trouble getting out, try to get the dog to go in outside kennel by raising it and lowering once out. Treats help with this!
- f) Open the inside door. (The door between the inside/outside kennels) Make sure it is level with the concrete opening
- g) CLIP the gate.
- h) Write on the log –date, activity, your initials
- i) Check off name on white board.

#### 4) Socialization

- a) **NEVER** socialize a dog with another dog without **PRIOR** approval from appropriate staff member. This includes:
  - i) Allowing your dog to approach another dog in the runs.
  - ii) Allowing your dog to approach a dog in the kennels.
  - iii) Allowing your dog to approach another dog being walked.
- b) Reasons to not socialize:
  - i) **It is against the rules**, these rules are put into place for everyone's safety.
  - ii) Not ALL dogs are friendly, so just because yours is does not mean that other dogs out are friendly also.
  - iii) Prevents dog fights and potential dog bites. - Safe environment for everyone involved – humans, dogs, and cats.

#### 5) CLEANING

- a) Scooping Poop – Trash cans with plastic bags are available for use at the gate and in all runs.
  - i) When and Where
    - (1) Each time your dog poops
    - (2) ALL walking areas
    - (3) Runs
  - ii) Place soiled bags in blue dumpster
- b) Runs – End of the day
  - i) Make sure all poop has been picked up
  - ii) Pick up toys and place in basket (if there is one) or the chair
  - iii) Empty and Clean all swimming pools during hot weather
  - iv) Empty and rinse out water bowl

#### 6) COLOR CODING – see chart for how dogs are coded and why

- a) **ALL NEW** dog walkers can **ONLY** walk green dogs.
- b) **Must be approved** by appropriate dog trainers or staff member before moving up to the next color.
- c) Color coding is not based on how easy a dog is to walk.
  - i) For example, you are walking this sweet easy going “why are you a red when you should be a green” dog when out of nowhere, there is a dog loose (got away from another walker, someone turning in a dog, my dog is great off-leash so lets it out without a leash owner) and now your sweet dog has become Cujo. Are you going to be able to handle that dog by keeping it away from the other dog, breaking up a dog fight, holding on NO MATTER how
  - ii)
  - iii) hard that dog pulls?
  - iv) Hard to get in and out of kennels – Busts through the gate as soon as it is open, goes after other dogs in kennels while walking in/out
  - v) Dog/Cat aggressive – Lunges at other dogs/cats when they see them.
  - vi) RED/BLUE or Staff only – can only be walked by **APPROVED** red walkers for red/blue dogs and staff for staff. **DO NOT** walk these dogs!!
- d) Do not walk dogs if they have not been color coded.
- e) If unsure, ask because sometimes when a dog is moved, the clip does not move with them.

**You need to ask yourself these questions and make sure you are confident that you can handle ANY or ALL of these situations before asking to walk Red dogs.**

## 7) ISO – ISOLATION BUILDING

- a) **DO NOT ENTER** at any time or touch them from their outside kennels. The dogs in this building are property of animal control and therefore do not belong to the shelter.
- b) Used to house bite cases that are on quarantine for 10 days to make sure the dog does not have rabies.
- c) Stray dogs – On hold for **72 business hours** (not 3 days) For example, if a dog comes in a 3:15pm Monday, it is on hold until 3:15PM Thursday; if a dog comes in at 2:00 PM on Saturday, it is on hold until 2:00PM Wednesday (Sunday does not count as it is not a business day). This is so owners have time to reclaim their missing pets.

## 8) MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

- a) **IN/OUT** doors – always use appropriate doors to prevent interaction with other dogs/walkers
- b) **Clips on Run** – Some dogs can use their noses to lift the gate latch
- c) Use a slip lead when walking dogs. The stopper needs to be pushed down to prevent dog from slipping out. Make sure the lead is pulled up high on their neck so it does not choke them. To help with pulling or for more control, the leash can be made into a harness. A staff member or dog walker can show you how this is done if you need assistance.
- d) **Loose dog** – Yell, “Loose Dog”. Close main gate and then try to catch dog. This prevents dog from escaping the property.
- e) Give dogs water if you see that their bowls are empty.
- f) Report any medical issues by writing on the write board by medical office. If it is something that needs immediate attention, find Ellen or Rachel to have them look at your dog
- g) Treats – make sure that they have not been over given and/or if your dog is on special diet.
- h) Blankets/Beds – make sure that your dog does not chew them up before giving them one.
- i) White boards on kennel – notes for staff and volunteers so please be sure to read information on it. Only write information that pertains to all walkers. For example, if you walked the dog and it is too strong for you that does not need to put on board. Examples of information that need to be reported:
  - i) Just spayed or neutered –easy walks, no water activities – bath,pool, etc
  - ii) Received heartworm treatment – easy walks, no excessive heat, keep as calm as possible
  - iii) No blanket or bed
  - iv) Feet or paws sore and red
  - v) VERY potty trained – won’t go in kennels
  - vi) Bites at leash, will bolt when dog is opened, etc.
- j) White board on wall – list of dogs that can be walked and special instructions. Check off a dog’s name once they have been out. If there is not a check, that dog has not been out that day.
- k) Please pay attention to the information on the white boards on kennels and on wall. This information is to help you and make the dog easier to walk.

- l) Some dogs are very potty trained and need to **go out first** and last (one quick lap to potty). They have 4 H's.
- m) Remember that the shelter is a loud, strange, place filled with strangers and strange smells for these dogs and they get scared and react – cowering, barking, snapping, etc. Pay close attention to your dog's body language and follow their cues. NEVER EVER walk a dog if you feel uncomfortable or unsure about that dog. It is better to be safe than sorry.

**Thank you for your time and commitment. It means so much to the staff and the dogs to have this time out of their kennel. It helps with stress, kennel aggression, depression, and some of these dogs are receiving love for the first time in their lives. Working together, we are making the dogs more adoptable and helping them get adopted!**