



Taking Home Your New Dog!

Congratulations on taking home your new family member! It is our goal to provide you with information and support during this exciting time. The information provided in this folder is very important in understanding your new dog. Below outlines points that will be discussed with you before you take home your new dog.

History – Extensive information is gathered on the dogs that are brought to us from families that can no longer care for them. You will receive a copy of this information to help give you a more thorough picture of your dog's personality, traits and habits. For those dogs whose previous families could not be found, the WARL staff will share with you any and all information that we have learned about the dog while caring for him/her at our shelter.

Behavior Assessment – Prior to adoption each dog's temperament is assessed using the Match Up II Shelter Dog Rehoming Program. Observations of the dog's reactions to a series of scenarios are recorded. These observations help identify what type of home s/he will do best in, and what behaviors need management. However, the evaluation is a snapshot in time, and the observations recorded at the time of evaluation may change once in a home setting. You will receive a personalized packet, based on each individual dog's needs.

WARL Training Class & Progress Report – Training classes are held at the shelter on most Tuesdays and Fridays from 4pm – 4:45pm. The classes are led by Jeff Klunk, a WARL Volunteer. As an adopter, you are welcome and encouraged to continue the classes with your dog at no extra charge once the adoption is complete. The class focuses on building a bond with your new dog, working on problem behaviors, and learning manners.

Medical History – All of the pets leaving WARL have been examined by a veterinarian. Your dog's health record will be reviewed with you before the adoption is complete. You will receive the original copies of your dog's medical records to take with you, keep these in a safe place.

VCA Certificate – You will receive a certificate for a complimentary physical exam & a complimentary 14-day follow-up care with your adopted dog at any VCA Animal Hospital. This certificate must be used within two weeks of the adoption date. Bring all medical paperwork to the vet appointments.

Shelter Care – If you have provided an email address on your adoption application you will receive, via email, an invitation to take advantage of thirty days of pet insurance offered by the pet insurance company Shelter Care.

Microchip – Each dog that leaves WARL has been implanted with a 24PetWatch microchip. This microchip is a tiny chip, the size of a grain of rice and has been inserted subcutaneously between the shoulder blades. The chip is an internal ID tag, not a GPS system. The chip stores a unique identification number and can be read by a special scanner. When a vet or shelter finds a pet, they use the scanner to read the chip. The chip will be registered with the address and phone number provided on your adoption application. Call the microchip company to change any contact information.

*We love to hear about how your new family member is doing in their new home! Send us pictures and stories and we'll feature them in the shelter, on our website, and on Facebook!
Mail them to the shelter, or by email to info@worcesterarl.org*

Thank you for adopting a pet from the Worcester Animal Rescue League!