



Give a Dog a Home Rescue

Let's go for a WALK

Doggy Day Out Program



VOLUNTEER MANUAL

WELCOME!

First and foremost, THANK YOU for gifting your time to our precious saved souls. By taking them out for just a few hours a day, our temporary residents can exert pent up energy as well as be mentally stimulated to new experiences and people! As a result of our "Let's go for a Walk!" Program, our dogs are less anxious or exuberant when they meet potential adopters, and they gain useful life skills that they wouldn't get from just sitting and waiting in the kennels.

Important Phone Numbers and Contacts

Give a Dog a Home Rescue:

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| Landline: | 207-564-8838 |
| Cell: | 207-852-7211 |
| Email: | giveadogahome.maine@gmail.com |
| Contact: | Jenny Cope |



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In case of an EMERGENCY

Please call **207-564-8838** (landline) or **207-852-7211** (cell)

Return the dog IMMEDIATELY back to the Rescue

*****All visits to the emergency clinic must be approved in advance*****

Eastern Maine Emergency Veterinary

15 Dirigo Drive, Brewer, ME 04412 - 207-989-6267

Monday - Friday 5.30pm – 8am

Saturday – Sunday Open 24 hours

Midcoast Animal Emergency Clinic

191 Camden Rd, Warren, ME 04864 - 207-273-1100

Monday - Friday 5.30pm – 7.30am

Saturday – Sunday Open 24 hours

Animal Emergency Clinic of Mid-Maine

37 Strawberry Avenue, Lewiston, ME 04240- 207-777-1110

Monday, Thursday, Friday 5.00pm – 8.00am

Tuesday, Wednesday 5.00pm – 12.00am

Saturday – Sunday Open 24 hours

Portland Veterinary Emergency and Specialty Care

739 Warren Avenue, Portland, ME 04103- 207-878-3121

24/7 – 365 days a year



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VOLUNTEER MANUAL



Emergencies that require immediate attention:

- 🐾 Sudden or blowout diarrhea where dog has no control at all
- 🐾 Temperatures over 104 degrees
- 🐾 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 incoordination
- 🐾 Anything else that makes you think that your dog is in pain or in danger of passing away

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



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VOLUNTEER MANUAL



Before You Pick Up Your Dog

1. 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 the rescue and what little (if any) information the shelter 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 out of the kennel environment and comfortable.
2. Remember that the dog must always be in control of an adult over the age of 18. While we welcome family outings, the leash must always be held by an adult and dogs and children should never be left unsupervised.
3. Ready your car 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.
4. Please plan to leave your own dog at home! The goal of our day trips is to give the dog a break from the rescue and some one-on-one time with humans. Although most of our rescue dogs do well with other dogs and enjoy doggie playtime, we prefer these days out be geared towards interacting with humans and not with other dogs. Be sure to maintain a twenty-foot distance from other dogs while out in public.



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Doggy Day Out Program



VOLUNTEER MANUAL

5. If you have family pets at your home, please do not take the rescue dog to your home, or to family or friends' homes that have pets.

6. 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. We don't know the history of most of the dogs we place, and this is a strange new environment, and it could be exiting and or scary, we do not want to take any chances.

7. The dog you take out will have a fitted harness and martingale collar, with collar ID tag and a leash attached to both collar and harness, so the dog will always be double leashed. Give a Dog a Home Rescue will provide you with a doggy seat belt, poop bags, water bottle, water bowl, crate if needed, and some rescue business cards! You MUST let us know in advance if you would like a crate.

8. You must NOT go to any areas where you do not have cell phone service, we must be able to always reach each other.

9. Don't plan on doing anything "too strenuous" with the dog. Remember, although they maybe a high energy breed, they have been in a kennel for several months and so not used to constant, structured exercise, so go gentle and not too far and let them sniff, sniff, sniff to stimulate their brains. The more you take the dog out on an adventure, the more you can build up to a longer trip.



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Doggy Day Out Program



VOLUNTEER MANUAL

If YOUR DOG GETS LOOSE:

Since we are taking precautions in having all dogs double leashed, there really should not be a reason the dog will get loose. However, in the event this does happen, it is important that you follow these steps and follow suggestions.

- 🐾 Please try not to panic.
- 🐾 If you can see the dog, try calling them.
- 🐾 Some of our more social guests may come right to you, but very often even social dogs get frightened once they get loose.
- 🐾 You may be more successful 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 can 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.



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Let's go for a WALK

Doggy Day Out Program



VOLUNTEER MANUAL

- 🐾 We understand that every circumstance is different and that luring your dog to you may not be possible, please call us if this is the case!

IF A BITE OCCURS:

All dogs are current on their rabies vaccines.

If the dog bites anyone (you included) we need to know right away.

If the dog bites a stranger, please take all 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. Please be as detailed as possible, if you do not have space to write down, try doing a voice recording on your phone, or writing a draft email or text to get information down whilst it is still fresh in your mind.

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 to report it. If you are seeing any signs of aggression, even if it is very minor, please contact the rescue immediately and do not try and force the dog into doing anything it doesn't want to or is uncomfortable with.



Give a Dog a Home Rescue

Let's go for a WALK

Doggy Day Out Program

VOLUNTEER MANUAL



IF SOMEONE IS INTERESTED IN ADOPTING

If you encounter someone who is interested in adopting the dog, please give them the dog's business card so that they may follow up with them. You can also direct them to email the rescue or go to the rescue website where lots of information on all dogs, and the application process is available.

We are not a shelter and do not have the staff, or availability for people to just show up at the rescue to see the dogs. Our process is families must complete an online adoption application, which is generally processed in 1-3 days and then approved applicants will be invited to schedule an appointment to come to the rescue to meet and hopefully take home their new best friend.

Since our adoptions occur as a result of the dogs being seen on our website and adoption sites, it is very important that we have adorable photos, and if possible, a great video of the dog you have taken out. The more pictures and video's showing the dog in different places, situations the more it helps families see how great of a dog they are. Please share these at giveadogahome.maine@gmail.com. We need your help to make sure your dog is seen as much as possible!



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Let's go for a WALK

Doggy Day Out Program



VOLUNTEER MANUAL

AS A PARTICIPANT, YOU MUST AGREE TO

- 🐾 Always have the dog under YOUR supervisor
- 🐾 Never leave children unattended with any dog
- 🐾 Never allow a child under eighteen to hold the leash or be in physical control of the dog.
- 🐾 Inform us if the dog bites anyone (you included) right away
- 🐾 Maintain a twenty-foot distance from other dogs while walking or in public.
- 🐾 Absolutely NO dog-to-dog intros.
- 🐾 Keep the dog on leash unless confined in your home/back yard after checking it is 100% secure.
- 🐾 Do not take the dog to off-leash dog areas, dog parks, or do dog introductions while on your trip
- 🐾 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
- 🐾 Keep the dog offsite (aka do not walk it around Give a Dog a Home Rescue property as this just gets all the other dogs upset.
- 🐾 Report any behavior or medical concerns to the rescue.
- 🐾 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)



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VOLUNTEER MANUAL

- 🐾 Always have a cell phone, switched on and in service with you that can be used to contact you
- 🐾 Present the dog in a positive way to potential adopters and members of the public

Woo-Hoo! HAPPY WALKING

We love to see and hear about your adventures today and pictures of your day can help them find an awesome forever home.

We do ask that you send us pictures and video's so we can share on our website, social media and adoption sites.

If you share on your page, be sure to tag or name the rescue so people know where to find the dog, or maybe even be interested in being an awesome **"Let's go for a Walk"** program participant.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GiveaDogaHome.Maine>

Website: www.giveadogahome-rescue.org

You can also send photos to giveadogahome.maine@gmail.com



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Taken from the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry Bureau of Parks and Lands

Pets in the Parks

We realize that pets are an important part of many families, and we want everyone to enjoy Maine State Parks. To help us protect the nesting sites of endangered piping plovers and the safety of all our visitors, please observe the following pet rules:

Beaches

No pets are allowed on State Park beaches between April 1 and September 30. Pets are welcome on State Park beaches, provided they are leashed from October 1st through March 31st. (Dogs on the Let's go for a Walk Program are **NEVER** allowed off leash).

Campgrounds

No pets are allowed at Sebago Lake State Park Campground.

All other campgrounds allow pets (see #2 & 3 below).

Pet owners may be assigned picnic or campsites in a less congested area of the park.

Leashes

Pets must be on a leash under the physical control of the pet handler and must not be left unattended.

Pet Waste

Pick up after your pet immediately and dispose of the pet waste properly.

<https://www.maine.gov/dacf/parks/camping/reservations/pets.shtml>