

The Volunteer Humane Society, Inc.

505 Center Bridge Rd., Lancaster, MA 01523

978-365-9470

www.volunteerhumanesoc.org

email: catshelter@hotmail.com

Pet Surrender Form

Name: _____ Age: _____ Color: _____

Short/Long Hair: _____ Sex: _____ Spayed/Neutered? _____

We want you to be sure of your choice to surrender your pet. If you have any questions regarding this process, please feel free to ask. The surrender of your pet should be your last option. The shelter reserves the right to refuse to accept any animal at any time. We will not accept pets for the purpose of euthanasia. It is the owner's responsibility to weigh the pros and cons of surrendering their pet.

Once a pet has been surrendered, there are several factors that determine if and how long a pet will be available for adoption. These include, but are not limited to: health and overall condition of the pet, medical issues, and most importantly, their behavior while at the shelter. Keep in mind that pets left in shelters go through a detachment phase. Some detach immediately and have no problems adjusting to shelter life. Other pets may take weeks/months or may never go through the detachment phase, and then may become aggressive, sick, or unmanageable. Your pet's behavior while at the shelter and with our volunteers and other pets (since they are free roaming in a single room) is re-evaluated daily with respect to the above listed factors. Because re-homing aggressive animals or pets with behavior/medical issues is a liability for the shelter, we will not and can not place these pets.

If the pet's health or behavioral conditions become questionable for any reason, at any time, and the shelter finds that my pet is not able to be safely re-homed, I understand I have the following 2 options:

____ YES, I will return and pick up my pet! I will have 48 hours from the time of initial contact from the shelter to come and reclaim my pet. I understand that I will not be reimbursed any amount of my surrender fee (if applicable).

____ NO. I will not/can not reclaim my pet for any reason and I understand that my pet may be euthanized due to any medical/behavioral issues that may be currently present or be found at any time.

____ STRAY. I have contacted the animal control officer of my town and have checked with my neighbors to be sure that I am not surrendering someone's pet. I understand that, in the State of Massachusetts, cats are considered personal property. Hence, knowingly surrendering someone's pet cat is illegal and is punishable by law. I understand that there is no legal "holding" period for cats in the State of Massachusetts, therefore, if the stray cat has any medical/behavioral issues, it will be evaluated in the same way, and with the same outcomes, as an owner-surrendered pet would.

I understand that my surrender fee of \$_____ is non-refundable and will help support the care of my pet. I certify that I own the pet described above and I hereby surrender all interest in my pet to the Volunteer Humane Society, Inc. I further state that my pet has not bitten or scratched anyone, breaking the skin, in the last 10 days. I understand that if my pet is adopted, the shelter will not get the cat back for me or release any of the new owner's information to me.

Signature: _____

Phone number: _____ Email address: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____