



DAS Doggie Daycation Manual

First and foremost, THANK YOU for gifting your time to our shelter dogs! By taking them out for just a few hours a day, our residents can exert pent up energy as well as be mentally stimulated to new experiences and people! As a result of a Doggy Day Out, 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 shelter. Another added bonus is that people who are not likely to come into shelters are still able to see some of our available animals!

Important Phone Numbers and Contacts

For general question/ info /non-emergencies:

DASVolunteer@dallas.gov

In the case of an emergency, please call the volunteer team immediately!

First contact for Sun - Thur:

Nathan Thrash: 214-412-4592

Email: Nathaniel.Thrash@dallas.gov

Avail: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

First contact for Fri-Sat:

Erika Bennett: 469-858-5698

Email: Erika.Bennett@dallas.gov

Avail: Friday, Saturday

If you are unable to get in touch with the first contact, our second contact is listed below:

Sarah Sheek: (469) 984-1818

Email: Sarah.Sheek@dallas.gov

Avail: Monday through Friday but can be reached on weekends in the case of an emergency.



In case of an emergency

Please call **your first contact** and return dog immediately

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

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



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 our facility and what little (if any) information her 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.

2. Remember that the dog must always be in control of an adult over the age of 18. While we allow 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 passengers' seat.

4. **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 most of our shelter dogs do well with other dogs and enjoy doggie playtime, we prefer these field trips be geared towards interacting with humans and not with other dogs. Maintain a ten foot distance from other dogs while out in public. **Dallas Animal Services** is not *liable for the treatment or cost of vet bills incurred for your own pets at your private veterinarian.*

5. 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 the majority of them were strays.

Dallas Animal Services will provide you with a leash, collar, harness, poop bags, water bowl, crate (if available), and a rabies tag for the dog!



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 guests may come right to you, but very often even social dogs get frightened once they get loose. Do not chase the dog if they get loose, as that will encourage them to run. 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. You can fashion a slip leash from a regular leash by feeding the end with the clip through the loop on the handle, to restrain the dog if you don't feel comfortable reaching for their collar. 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 if this is the case!

IF A BITE OCCURS:

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. We are required by law to report any bites that break skin to the DAS Bite Desk. **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. If you are seeing any signs of aggression, even if it is very minor, please contact your coordinator immediately. Even if the bite doesn't break skin, please contact us immediately.



IF SOMEONE IS INTERESTED IN ADOPTING

If you encounter someone who is interested in adopting your dog, please have them meet you back at DAS and we can process the adoption at the shelter. You can also direct them to your coordinator. The majority of our adoptions occur as a result of the dogs being seen on our website. It is very important that we have adorable photos, and if possible a great video of your dog. Please share these with us via the Google drive or by emailing them to DASPhotos@dallas.gov. We need your help to make sure your dog is seen as much as possible!

AS A PARTICIPANT, YOU MUST AGREE TO

- Have the dog under YOUR supervisor at all times
- 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 ten foot distance from other dogs while walking or in public – no dog to dog intros.
- Maintain a ten foot distance from cats in public or in your home – no dog to cat introductions.
- Keep the dog on leash unless confined in your home/back yard (ensure the fence is at least 6 ft high if the dog will be off-leash).
- 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
- Report any behavior or medical concerns to your coordinator immediately
- 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 cell phone with you at all times that can be used to contact you

- Present the dog in a positive way to potential adopters and members of the public

Woo-Hoo! Doggie Daycation!

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

If you post pics on social, please tag us:

Facebook: Dallas Animal Services and Adoption Center

Instagram: @DallasAnimalServices

Use the hashtag **#DASdoggiedaycation**

You can also send photos to DASPhotos@dallas.gov or you can submit them via [the Google Drive here!](#)

You can use the [link here](#) to upload the behavior notes from your Daycation!