



THE SWVAL ADOPTION PROCESS

- Select the pet(s) you are interested in adopting and request an adoption application by writing adopt.swval@gmail.com or downloading one from our website.
- Carefully review the adoption application. Please be aware that by submitting your application you are giving Southern WV Animal League permission to check your veterinarian references, personal references and verify your employment.
- SWVAL requires all cats in the prospective adopter's home to have a current combo test, combo vaccine, parasite preventative and a rabies vaccine. SWVAL requires all dogs in the prospective adopter's home to have a current heartworm test, parasite preventative, Parvo/Distemper vaccine and a rabies vaccine. All adoptive pets must be altered before adoption or by 6 months of age. Verification must be provided w/in two weeks of the alteration. All family pets must be altered prior to adopting a pet from SWVAL. This includes small and large domestic pets. Medical exemptions will be accepted. Your adoption fee covers the expense of these requirements.
- Submit your completed application along with any questions to adopt.swval@gmail.com.
- Please allow up to 7 days for initial approval/denial. During this time, SWVAL will check references and ask any follow-up questions deemed necessary.
- If your application is denied, you will be informed of the reason and given the opportunity to correct any errors. Please understand we will not hold a particular pet indefinitely however. Applications are processed in the order they are received.
- If your application is approved, SWVAL will contact you for a Meet and Greet. If after meeting the pet, you decide they are not a match, you are not obligated to adopt.
- If you live outside of the immediate area, you may elect to waive the Meet and Greet. SWVAL will make every effort to arrange complementary transport with a networking rescue or transport system. If we are unable to do this, SWVAL will transport the pet to you or meet you at a midpoint at your expense. The adoption fee does not include transportation fees.
- You will be asked to sign an adoption contract should you decide to adopt.
- Should you decide within the 30 day period to return the pet, SWVAL will refund the adoption fee in full. After the 30 day trial period, SWVAL will still welcome the pet back into the SWVAL network should you decide not to keep it, however the adoption fee will not be returned. You will be responsible for any fees incurred in transporting the pet back into the care of SWVAL if complementary return transport cannot be arranged. At any point, should the adopter decide not to keep the adopted pet, the pet must be returned to SWVAL or the potential new adopter approved by SWVAL.