



## Canyon County Animal Shelter

5801 Graye Lane  
Caldwell, ID 83607  
208-455-5920

### Is Foster Care for You?

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#### OUR FOSTER PARENTS ARE ASKED TO:

**Give your foster animal lots of attention and affection.**

The animal may have lived a difficult life before coming to your home. Your love and attention will help heal the animal's psychological wounds.

**Learn as much as you can about pet care.**

Before you bring your foster animal home, learn as much as you can about caring for that particular type of animal. Read about feeding, grooming, and training. Study warning signs that may indicate the animal needs veterinary attention.

**Keep your pets up to date on their vaccinations.**

All animals should be current on vaccinations that protect them from diseases. Before you bring home a foster animal, consult your veterinarian to make sure your own animals have received the preventive treatment they need to keep them safe.

**Keep foster animals away from your own pets, at least initially.**

A foster pet may come into your home harboring contagious diseases, in spite of our best efforts. Even though your pets are vaccinated against many diseases, it's a good idea to keep the foster animal away from your pets for at least a week as an added precaution.

**Keep an unaltered foster animal away from any other unaltered animal of the same species.**

We must work together to address the problem of pet overpopulation by keeping unaltered animals protected from the possibility of procreating.

**Make your home pet-friendly and protective.**

Before you bring your foster animal home, make sure you have "pet proofed" your home. For example, remove poisonous plants and protect furnishings. Keep the animal's room warm and comfortable. Take steps to prevent the animal from escaping by providing a fenced outdoor area.

**Plan on setting aside time to focus on your foster animal.**

Foster animals, especially puppies and kittens, can be very time-consuming and demanding. All foster animals need time and attention from those who are caring for them.

**Understand that some foster animals will not survive.**

Many animals that arrive at the shelter come from unknown backgrounds. Despite your best efforts, the animal you foster may develop a severe illness that cannot be treated. Do the best you can to help the animal, but accept the fact that you cannot save them all.

**Recognize your limits.**

Fostering requires a great deal of time and energy, both emotional and physical. Don't overextend yourself by fostering animals too frequently or you may burn yourself out.