



FINDING A NEW HOME FOR YOUR PET

“I need to find a new home for my pet.”

“I need to get rid of this animal.”

GENERAL ADVICE

Your pet is a part of your family, and making the decision to give them up can be heartbreaking. But sometimes because of financial reasons, lifestyle changes or specific pet behavior problems, it's the best decision for everyone.

Taking your pet to an animal shelter is much better than leaving them somewhere to fend for himself—a death sentence for most pets and illegal in most states. However, your pet will very likely find the shelter environment stressful, and, depending on the policies of the shelter, they may be at risk of euthanasia. (Surrenders are often first when space is an issue). Additionally, the animal's age is a factor in finding a new home (small dogs have it a bit easier). It is especially hard on older animals when they lose their home. Adjusting to life in a shelter is so stressful for some older pets that they become ill. Millions of companion animals are surrendered to shelters each year and there simply aren't enough resources to care for all of them.



Shelters should be places of last resort for animals, so a really good alternative is to try finding a new home for your pet yourself. This solution will be easiest on your pet—and easiest on you too, since you'll know that your pet is in good hands. However, we also encourage you to ask yourself why you need to rehome your pet, and see if there may be other possible solutions that could help you keep your pet in your home. If you need help answering this question and are unable to find resources, please call Greenville County Animal Care first and allow us the opportunity to try to help.

If you are certain you would like to rehome a pet, rather than turn the animal into a shelter where he or she may be killed, there are proactive strategies you can use to increase your chances of success. **Please see the section on Placement Tips for guidance.**

First and foremost, we recommend that all pet owners consult with their veterinarian. The information contained herein is meant to be a resource. It is not exhaustive, nor does it indicate an endorsement or recommendation from Greenville County Animal Care. Please use your own due diligence in researching these sources and making the best choice for your pet(s).

If you still need assistance after reviewing the information on our website, please either email or call Greenville County Animal Care at 864-467-3950 www.greenvillecounty.org/acs.