



Jasper County Animal Rescue League and Humane Society
5411 Liberty Avenue Newton, IA 50208
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Adopting a Shelter Dog

The JCARL recommends taking the following precautions for any new animal, whether it was adopted from the Humane Society or purchased elsewhere.

1. In order to protect your new dog, as well as any other dogs that may reside in your household, keep your new dog from sharing food, water, or toys with other dogs for a period of 2 weeks. Keep all stools picked up and clear of all yard debris.
2. As in any situation where many animals are housed in close proximity to each other, disease control is a concern. While the JCARL adheres to strict hygiene and cleaning protocols, the potential for an animal to become ill is always present. Dogs placed into group housing situations are at special risk for kennel cough or parvo. If your new dog has been showing signs of coughing, excessive sneezing, diarrhea, vomiting or lethargy call your veterinarian and set up an appointment right away.

The JCARL has taken a proactive approach to pet overpopulation by instituting an aggressive Spay and Neuter Program. All puppies, kittens, dogs and cats that are two pounds and over have been spayed or neutered. If the procedure was performed at the shelter, the medical history included in your adoption paperwork indicates the date the operation took place.

For dogs recently altered by the JCARL, the following treatment is recommended:

1. Inspect the surgery site for swelling or discharge. Stitches are under the skin and will dissolve on their own. Some swelling is normal, but if the site becomes inflamed, contact your veterinarian immediately.
2. Keep the surgery site as dry as possible. Your pet will naturally lick the site, but do not allow them to lick excessively. Do not immerse the surgery site in water for at least 10 days after the surgery. This will allow the wound enough time to properly close and decrease the likelihood of infection.
3. Avoid excessive play or jumping for the first week after surgery. This will allow the site to heal properly and avoid any stitches from breaking prematurely.

Remember, once, you adopt an animal from the JCARL that animal is your responsibility. We cannot pay for medical treatment and we cannot refund adoption fees. You may however, exchange an animal within three business days of adoption if your animal is severely sick. If you have any questions concerning your newly adopted pet, please call the JCARL 641-792-5407.