

ATHENS, VERMONT PET-SHELTER AGREEMENT (2022 draft)

In case of a town weather emergency that results in the opening of the town's emergency shelter, located in the Community Christian Church, the Old Athens School Building will be opened for Athens' residents to house their small pets. Dogs will be housed in the basement. Cats and other small pets will be housed on the main floor. In order to take advantage of the pet shelter the following requirements must be met:

Check in at the Athens' Emergency Facility leaving your pet outside with a family member or friend, and get your *Permit of Pet Occupancy* validated at the shelter's check in table.

- **Pets we are unable to accept**
 - We will not be able to accept any dog that is aggressive toward people or other dogs, or has bitten anyone within the past 10 days and is in quarantine.
- **To receive the *Permit of Pet Occupancy* validation you will need the following:**
 - Copy of current rabies vaccination certificate for dogs and cats
 - Current photo of your pet(s)
 - A filled out copy of the *Permit of Pet Occupancy* form (see attached page)
 - Have a crate or pet carrier large enough for the animal to stand up, turn around and lay back down and to hold its food and water dishes, and litter pan if a cat; label crate with your pet's name and your name
 - Water and food dishes, and pet's food; water available on site
 - A blanket and a toy to help provide some comfort for your pet as this will be a strange and stressful environment for him/her
 - Animals that need to be taken out for exercise must have a collar or harness, and a leash. Chock collars must be removed while the animal is in the crate.
- **The shelter will have a staff person on site to supervise activities**
 - When a pet is checked into the shelter, staff person will
 - collect the *Permit of Pet Occupancy*, the pet photo and copy of your rabies certificate
 - see that the crate/carrier is labeled with the pet and owner's names
 - assign you a spot to set up the pet's crate/carrier
 - A staff person will contact the main shelter if a problem arises with any of the pets and owner will be notified
- **Pet owner has full responsibility for care and well being of their pet, such as:**
 - To provide food, and any medications your pet needs; food may be kept with the pet but owner must keep any medications with him/her. If medication is in need of refrigeration, check in at the church's kitchen.
 - To feed and water pet two times daily, or as needed.
 - To exercise pet three or more times a day or as appropriate for the pet.
 - To clean up after pet outside and deposit waste in provided trash container.
 - To keep crate/carrier and area around them clean.
 - Animals are to be under control at all times by the owner; no free running inside or outside.

- If you need help due to physical conditions please discuss this with the staff person at the time of check in. We will do what we can, but remember we have limited staffing.

- **Supplies to be kept on hand by pet shelter staff for pet owners to use:**
 - Water
 - paper towels
 - pet friendly cleaning solution
 - small bags for feces clean up and kitchen waste basket sized trash bags
 - mop and bucket