



Dog-to-Dog Introductions Waiver

Guilford County Animal Services strives to provide a safe and secure place for our community and the animals under our care.

Although animals are supervised, injuries can still occur while dogs are interacting with one another. Such injuries are not common, but the risk is there, especially with dogs with little known history of behavior and/or medical conditions. In addition, while infrequent, dogs can get into fights, even under close supervision.

It can be difficult to predict how your dog's behavior might change when brought into an unknown environment, especially when the environment is an animal shelter full of new sights and scents. It is therefore also important for you to recognize that the behavior(s) your own dog exhibits during a dog-to-dog interaction may be different from what you expect or what you have seen previously. This could include signs of fear, anxiety, and/or aggression, to name a few.

Guilford County Animal Services has procedures in place to screen dogs for aggressive behavior. However, this is not a guarantee that a dog will not be aggressive towards your dog. Even the friendliest of dogs can get into fights with very little or no warning. In addition to injuries, it is possible for dogs to transfer illnesses, even with the required vaccinations and boosters. Such illnesses do not occur often and all dogs must have the necessary vaccinations to be allowed to participate in a Dog-to-Dog Introduction.

Please keep in mind that even if the introduction is positive at the shelter, this does not indicate or guarantee it will be the same in the home environment. The home is your dog's territory and there may be unforeseen issues with the dogs acclimating together there.

By allowing your dog to participate in a Dog-to-Dog Introduction, you acknowledge these rules and agree as follows: (please initial)

_____ I represent that my pet is up to date on all required vaccinations including but not limited to Rabies, Distemper and Bordetella (kennel cough).

_____ I understand that staff may, in staff's own discretion, may determine that any dog-to-dog introduction is inappropriate under the circumstances and decline to conduct the introduction.

_____ I agree that Guilford County Animal Services will not be liable for any claims of injury, illness, damage or death to **my dog** during the introduction, including but not limited to any claims for consequential damages, emotional distress or physical injury.

_____ I agree that Guilford County Animal Services will not be liable for any claims of injury, illness, damage or death to **me and/or any family member** during the introduction, including but not limited to any claims for consequential damages, emotional distress or physical injury



_____ I certify that I have informed Guilford County Animal Services of all prior incidents of aggression by my dog. I agree that I am responsible for any harm caused by my dog while participating in the introduction. I shall indemnify Guilford County Animal Services against any claims made against it or for losses or damages suffered by Guilford County Animal Services because of my dog.

_____ I understand that photographs, video or digital recordings are taken of the facility, pets, customers and staff on a regular basis for, among other things, use in advertising by Guilford County Animal Services. I acknowledge that all such images, together with prints and copyrights, therein are the property of Guilford County Animal Services.

_____ Only individuals over the age of 18 may participate in the dog introduction.

_____ I agree to have my dog on a secure collar and suitable leash and I'm responsible for following all verbal instructions given by Guilford County staff. If the staff feels the introduction needs to end, I agree to separate my dog immediately.

_____ I give Guilford County Animal Services my consent, permission, and authorization, without compensation to me, to use, reproduce, and alter the images, in print and electronic format (including the internet), either alone or in combination with other texts and graphics. I waive my right to approve the finished photograph, advertising copy, print material or electronic files that may be used in conjunction with the images.

This agreement and waiver is valid only on the date listed below.

Date: _____

Print Name of Dog owner or responsible party: _____

Signature: _____

GCAS Staff Print Name: _____