



# EQUINE AND LIVESTOCK ADOPTION APPLICATION

Once completed, please deliver or mail the application to  
WHS, PO Box 13005, Salem, OR 97305  
Phone: 503-585-5900 x334 Fax: 503-585-7906

Willamette Humane Society (WHS) is a private, non-profit organization committed to the well being of animals and considers livestock ownership a serious responsibility. Because we want to ensure that each person who adopts livestock is aware of the responsibility, commitment, and financial resources that are required, we require the potential adopter(s) to complete an application and participate in an evaluation and adoption counseling session.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Drivers License # \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax # \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

## Adoption Process

Adopting livestock can be a very happy, rewarding experience, but it is also a very large and demanding responsibility. Financial, time, and emotional commitments are required. You need to be certain that you are able and willing to meet the animal's needs. The following paragraphs contain information on what it might take to care for a livestock animal. Further information can be found on our website, or from a large animal veterinarian.

### Financial Commitment:

The WHS does not *sell* animals; we ask for an *adoption fee* to help defer the costs of care. WHS tries to ensure animals in our care are current on vaccinations, trimming, floating, and worming. When adopted, copies of all medical records or history that we have for each animal will be given to the adopter as well as information regarding the kind and amount of feed the animal is presently receiving.

There are no reimbursements. Adoption fees for livestock animals must be in the form of cash, a money order, or Visa/MasterCard. Installments are not accepted under any circumstances. The adoption fee is **not** tax deductible. The adopter is responsible for all expenses incurred for the care of the animal.

There are many ongoing expenses related to livestock ownership, and include, but are not limited to: access to a stable or barn with turnouts or pasture, barn and fence maintenance, feed and water troughs, stall cleaning tools hay, grain, supplements and bedding, regular de-wormer and vaccinations and vet and farrier services on both a regular and emergency basis. Additional expenses related to horses in particular may include boarding and training fees, access to a trailer for hauling the horse, grooming supplies, halters and lead ropes, and a bridle, saddle and pad that fits the horse properly if it is a riding animal.

### Time Commitment:

Plan to spend a minimum of one hour each day feeding and cleaning. More time will be spent hauling feed, hay, and bedding. Fence and barn maintenance will use up several weekends a year. Weather will affect the amount of time needed. Winter will require ensuring that water is not frozen, ice has not built up in feet, and blankets are used when needed. Hot conditions mean maintaining extra water buckets and controlling insects. Training an

animal also takes time. Plan to spend at least 15-30 minutes **each day** working with your animal. Is there a responsible person available to care for the animal if you go away for vacation or become ill? This is something to think about before the situation arises.

Children should not be expected to assume total responsibility of an animal. Parents who acquire a livestock animal for minor children should have knowledge of proper animal care and must personally monitor the daily care and feeding of the animal.

### **Emotional Commitment:**

Due to the abuse or neglect a rescued animal has endured, he/she may need special care or rehabilitation. They can, however, make wonderful companion animals and many horses can be ridden with proper training. Some investment of patience, time and dedication will be key to helping your adopted animal learn to trust you, to learn new skills and to develop their full potential.

The WHS makes every effort to match the personality and abilities of the livestock animal to the adopter's level of skill and expertise. However, it must be understood that most of WHS's rescued animals need additional training or handling. In some cases, these animals will have little or no prior training. It is the adopter's responsibility to ensure that the animal is safe to handle.

Most livestock animals are herd animals. Therefore, please understand that we prefer to adopt to a home that already has at least one animal of the species. We may consider a home with another type of companion animal, a goat with sheep for example, or a goat as a companion to a horse.

### **Steps to the Adoption Process**

- All prospective adoptive homes must complete and return a Livestock Adoption Application. A WHS humane investigator or designated representative will then look over the application and call the applicant to discuss the application. If the interview is satisfactory, a property inspection will be conducted by the humane investigator or designated representative to ensure the animal will be going to an appropriate environment.
- If the humane investigator or designated representative believes the animal and applicant are compatible and that the applicant will be able to provide lifelong care for the animal, the applicant will then participate in an adoption counseling session. After the session is completed and the adoption contract is signed, the adoption fee is paid and arrangements can be made to pick up or drop off the animal.

### **In order to ensure quality lifetime care, the adopter must agree to:**

- Never breed the adopted animal, and if adopting a male animal under one year of age, agree to have him sterilized (gelded or castrated)—at the adopter's expense—by one year of age unless a vet recommends otherwise. (All male animals over one year old will be sterilized or castrated prior to adoption.)
- Care for the animal for the rest of his/her life and if unable to keep the animal in the future, contact WHS to re-home the animal. (Livestock cannot be sold, exchanged, slaughtered or given away.)
- Abide by all state and local laws regulating the care and control of livestock.
- Provide veterinarian and farrier references (if applicable).
- Have a vet examine the animal—at the adopter's expense—if the adopted animal is to be used for reasons other than companionship in order to determine whether or not the animal is capable of performing the duties that will be required of him/her once adopted.
- Never use the animal—or allow others to use the animal—for research, experimental, or laboratory use, for any profit-making venture or for entertainment purposes such as rough-stock rodeo events, basketball games, diving events, etc.
- Not abuse the animal by the use of electric prods, sharpened sticks, bucking straps, or any other device designed to inflict pain on the animal.
- Have the property where the animal will be kept inspected by a WHS humane investigator or designated representative. If kept at the adopter's home, it is the adopter's responsibility to know of any limitations or restrictions, whether by landlord or local ordinances, regarding livestock housing on their land.

- If it is determined that the adoption contract agreements are not being adhered to the WHS has the right to repossess the animal and take legal action if necessary.

**Please list all animals you currently have**

(Please note: If you have many animals of one kind—such as a herd of cattle or a flock of sheep—it is not necessary to list each animal; only indicate how many of each species. However, we do request that all EQUINES be listed separately.)

Type of Animal	Sex		Altered		Age	Lives <small>(circle all the apply)</small>	
	M	F	Yes	No		Indoors	Outdoors
	M	F	Yes	No		Indoors	Outdoors
	M	F	Yes	No		Indoors	Outdoors
	M	F	Yes	No		Indoors	Outdoors
	M	F	Yes	No		Indoors	Outdoors
	M	F	Yes	No		Indoors	Outdoors
	M	F	Yes	No		Indoors	Outdoors
	M	F	Yes	No		Indoors	Outdoors

How long have you lived at the current address?	
Will the adopted animal(s) be kept at the above address?	<b>YES</b> <b>NO</b>
	If not, where? _____
Who will be responsible for the care of this animal?	
Have you ever taken an animal to an auction or stockyard?	<b>YES</b> <b>NO</b>
Have you ever had a humane investigator, animal control officer, or other law enforcement official investigate an animal complaint against you?	<b>YES</b> <b>NO</b>
	If so, what were the circumstances?
Have you ever been charged with animal neglect, abuse, or abandonment?	<b>YES</b> <b>NO</b>
	If so, what were the circumstances?
Do you have a trailer, or access to one in an emergency?	<b>YES</b> <b>NO</b>

**Your property or Boarding facility:**

Will pasture be accessible to the adopted animal?	<b>YES</b> <b>NO</b>
Size and type of barn or lean-to:	

Will the adopted animal have his/her own stall?	
Size of stall:	
Type of stall flooring and bedding:	
What kind of fencing is there?	
Does any of it need to be repaired?	<b>YES</b> <b>NO</b> If yes, when will repairs be finished? _____
Where will the animal(s) be kept during the day?	
Where will the animal(s) be kept during the night?	
How long will the adopted animal be turned out each day?	
What type of feed is provided?	

**If you perform your own wormings and/or vaccinations:**

How often do you de-worm? What products do you use?	
How often and which diseases do you vaccinate for?	

**Care of the adopted animal(s):**

How much money for vaccinations, wormings, dental work, feed/hay, vet care, and farrier care do you think you will spend each year on the adopted animal(s)?	
Are you prepared to accept these financial responsibilities for the life of the animal?	<b>YES</b> <b>NO</b>
Do you have a livestock veterinarian?	
What is your farrier's/shearer's name and phone number?	
Who cares for your animals when you are out of town?	

**The new family:**

How many people live in your household?	
Do you live with (circle all that apply):	<b>Parents    Spouse    Children</b> <b>Roommate(s)    Other:</b>
If there are children, what are their ages?	
Is everyone in the household familiar with livestock animals?	<b>YES                      NO</b>

**Use of the animal(s):**

Who will be the primary handler/rider?	<b>Name:</b> _____ <b>Age:</b> _____ <b>Height:</b> _____ <b>Weight:</b> _____
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If you are an experienced livestock handler, please describe your training methods and philosophy:

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In order for us to make the best match for you, please answer the following questions:

Do you show livestock animals? If yes, what type of showing?	<b>YES                      NO</b>
Do you hope to show the animals you adopt?	<b>YES                      NO</b>
Will this animal be enrolled in a 4-H program?	<b>YES                      NO</b>
Do you compete with your animals? If yes, what kind of competing do you do?	<b>YES                      NO</b>
Do you hope to use the adopted animal for competition purposes?	<b>YES                      NO</b>
Do you use any of your animals for work purposes?	<b>YES                      NO</b>

Will you accept an animal with a limitation?

*Lameness*

- None
- Slight

*Behavioral*

- None
- Slight
- Needs confident handler
- Needs re-training

*Blindness*

- None
- One-eyed or partial
- Any or all blindness

**Please CIRCLE the preference of animal you are interested in adopting.  
(Choose as many as you would like.)**

- |          |           |         |                 |           |
|----------|-----------|---------|-----------------|-----------|
| Chickens | Ducks     | Goats   | Llamas/Alpacas  | Pigs      |
| Sheep    | Donkey    | Turkeys | Potbellied Pigs | Rhea/Emus |
| Cattle   | Waterfowl | Geese   | Other: _____    |           |

**Please CIRCLE the preference of age you are interested in adopting.  
(Choose as many as you would like.)**

- |           |           |            |             |        |
|-----------|-----------|------------|-------------|--------|
| 0-2 years | 3-5 years | 6-10 years | 10-15 years | Senior |
|-----------|-----------|------------|-------------|--------|

*I certify that the information I have provided is true and understand that any false information may nullify the adoption. I agree to a pre- and post-home inspection by an employee of the WHS. I understand the WHS reserves the right to refuse any adoption.*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**For office use only:**

Date of facility inspection:

By:

Meets standards?

Approved for adoption?

Date of adoption appointment:

Staff member to conduct adoption:

Arrangements for transfer of animal: