

Animal Care Centers of NYC Boroughbreak Guidelines



First and foremost, **THANK YOU** for gifting your time to our shelter dogs! By taking them out for just a few hours a day they can exert pent-up energy as well as experience new surroundings and new people! As a result of a Boroughbreak, our dogs are less anxious or exuberant when they meet potential adopters and they gain useful life skills that they wouldn't get from waiting in the shelter. You may also run into somebody when you are out and about that could be interested in adopting that pet or another! **Please note: Boroughbreaks are currently only available for large dogs.*

Important Phone Numbers and Contacts

Foster Phone Number: (646) 389-9084

General questions/info/non-emergencies: accfosters@nycacc.org

In case of emergency please call the number above – this rings the Foster Office phone and the mobile phones of all Foster staff working that day.

****Any visit to an outside veterinary clinic or hospital must be approved by ACC in advance****

What ACC Supplies

We will provide you with the basics you will need to enjoy a day out (or a day in) with your dog.

- Harness & leash
- Treats & treat pouch
- Waste bags
- Information about your dog

Before You Pick Up Your Dog

1. The foster team will match you with a dog that we think will be a good fit for your experience level and also what you want to do for the day. We will provide as much information as possible about the dog's behavior, but histories can be limited, or in the case of strays, non-existent. You may experience behaviors that were not noted previously.
2. If you are taking a dog in the car, make sure it has enough space and/or the ability to separate them from the front seats.
3. Please leave young children and your own dog at home! If you have any questions about this please reach out to the foster team.

If Your Dog Gets Loose

The most important thing is not to panic! If you can see the dog try crouching down and calling to them. Some of our social dogs may come right back! You can also try calling them and walking away, which may seem odd but can encourage them to follow you. The main this is not to chase them as playful dogs may see this as a game and run away, and fearful dogs may be frightened and run as well. If you do not feel that you can secure the dog (it is avoiding you grabbing the collar/harness or is in a flat-out run) please call us immediately.

If a Bite Occurs

If a dog bites anyone (including you or another animal) we need to know right away. If they bite a stranger please take all of their information so we can contact them to fill out the appropriate paperwork. We are required by law to report any bite that breaks skin to the Department of Health so this is extremely important.

If Somebody is Interested in Adopting

If you encounter somebody who is interested in adopting your dog please give them the dog's name and Animal ID # and ask them to reach out to accfosters@nycacc.org Similarly, if somebody is interested in ACC adoption and/or fostering please have them reach out to us!

A big way you can help your dog on their journey to adoption is to take lots of pictures and videos! The majority of our adoptions come from people viewing animals on the website so cute pictures and videos can make a massive difference! We encourage all participants to tag us on Instagram if you are sharing anything - @nycacc @accfosters and we use #BoroughBreak #ACCFosters #NYCACC and #Boroughbred

As a Participant in the BoroughBreak Program You Must Agree To:

- Have the dog under your supervision at all times
- Never leave children unattended with any dog
- Inform us if the dog bites anyone (including you) right away
- Keep the dog on leash at all times unless confined to your home
- Do not take the dog to dog parks and do not do dog introductions on leash
- Pick up and return the dog at the agreed-upon times
- Report any behavior or medical concerns to the foster team
- Keep the dog safe by providing adequate rest, shade, shelter and water
- Have a cell phone with you at all times that can be used to contact you
- Present the dog and ACC in a positive way to members of the public

If you would like suggestions of dog-friendly locations near our care centers, dog-friendly cafes and restaurants, or dog-friendly hikes, please feel free to ask us!