



Franklin County Municipal Court Environmental Division

Judge Stephanie Mingo

HOW TO CARE FOR AN ANIMAL

Animal can't speak for themselves. They rely on humans who care about their well-being.

This means knowing what licenses and vaccinations are required as well as the level of care that is needed.

Choosing the Right Animal

DO'S:



Research and understand the breed before you adopt a dog or pet.



Vaccinate, microchip, and license your animals.



Spay or neuter your dog/pet.



Always keep your animal on a leash, or in a secure and safe enclosed area; and supervise closely if you take your pet outside.



Socialize your dog with humans as much as possible.



Properly house, feed, and care for your pets.



Give your dog daily exercise.

DON'TS:



Never try to use your dog as a guard dog, for fighting, or keep it chained/tied up/penned or outside unattended at any time.



Owning a pet is for LIFE- do not sell, give away, or dispose of your pet.



Never leave a dog alone and unsupervised with other animals or children.



Never leave your dog unmonitored when it plays with other dogs, and ensure things don't escalate.



Never own a breed of dog that is not allowed in your apartment, condo, or rental house.

PREPARE FOR AN EMERGENCY

Just as you do with your family- prepare an emergency supply kit for your pet. Think first about the basics for survival, particularly food and water. Consider two kits. In one kit, put everything you and your pets will need to stay where you are. The other kit should be a lightweight, smaller version you can take with you if you and your pets have to get away. Plus, be sure to review your kits to ensure that their contents, especially food and medicines, have not expired.

In an emergency, local authorities may or may not immediately be able to provide information on what is happening and what you should do. However, watch the TV, listen to the radio, or check the Internet for instructions. If you're specifically told to evacuate, shelter-in-place, or seek medical treatment, do so immediately.

Those who take the time to prepare themselves and their pets will likely encounter less difficulty, stress, and worry. Take the time now to get yourself and your pet ready.

For more information on animal related contact information, programs, and brochures visit the Environmental Court's Website.

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