



Rondout Valley Kennels, Inc.

Pet Lodging  Training / Behavior  Adoptions & Education

BILL OF RIGHTS FOR ADOPTERS

1. You have the right to adopt the best dog/cat you have ever met
2. You have the right to adopt a dog or cat that has not bitten and broken skin on a human
3. You have the right to adopt a dog that will be safe with children in the neighborhood
4. You have the right to adopt a dog that has not killed another dog
5. You have the right not to be blamed if the dog you adopt turns out aggressive
6. You have the right not to be blamed for **NOT** adopting a dog that has been at the shelter for too long , or to choose **NOT** to adopt a dog (*and not to be made to feel guilty*) because the dog has been sheltered long-term
7. You have the right not to be pressured to adopt an incompatible or dog you don't readily connect with because/even though the alternative is euthanasia
8. You have the right to be *educated*, and explained the reasons why you are refused an adoption, so that you can make changes in order to become a conscientious pet owner
9. You have the right to be treated with respect, courtesy, and professionalism
10. You have the right inquire and receive as much prior behavioral and medical history on the dog that is currently available
11. You have the right to be informed of the dog's actual age, and if the actual age is not known, to receive the best guess from a shelter professional
12. You have the right to be informed of the dog's actual breed or breed mix, and if not known, to be given the best guess from a shelter professional, with no euphemisms or avoiding breeds that conjure up public fear (e.g. Pit bull, Chow, etc.)
13. To have the right to expect the shelter to stand behind its dogs/puppies, and accept them back **AT ANY TIME**, for **ANY REASON**, should the need ever arise in the dog's lifetime.