



## Canine Behavior Assessment

The goal of the Fairfax Pets On Wheels Canine Behavior Assessment is to determine how the dog/handler team will react to and cope with the pressures of the nursing home environment they will visit.

The team evaluation begins at the time the handler and pet walk through the door for their appointment. How the dog interacts with the other pets to be evaluated, the handler's awareness and control of the dog, and whether the dog is or becomes comfortable with the environment are taken into account.

In addition to observing the dog's comfort level around medical equipment, the evaluator may assess how the dog responds to basic obedience commands such as sit and stay, will observe the dog's reaction to being lightly pinched and having its tail and ears gently pulled, and will have the handler walk with the dog on a loose leash. Handlers must have good control of their dogs at all times.

**Owners should print and complete "Canine Behavior Assessment Part 1" (pages 2 and 3) and bring it to your behavior assessment appointment.**

To assist you in preparing for the assessment, you may want to review and print the form our testers will use (page 4) to evaluate your dog.

FAIRFAX PETS ON WHEELS, Inc.  
 CANINE Behavior Assessment  
 Part 1: to be completed by Owner/Handler

<b>OWNER INFORMATION</b>		
Owner's Name:		
Street Address:		
City/State/Zip:		
Day Phone:		
Evening Phone:		
Cell Phone:		
E Mail:		
<b>HANDLER INFORMATION (if handler other than owner)</b>		
Handler Name:		
Street Address:		
City/State/Zip:		
Day Phone:		
Evening Phone:		
Cell Phone:		
E Mail:		
<b>DOG INFORMATION</b>		
Name:		
Breed:		
Gender (please circle):        M                    F		
Spayed/Neutered (please circle):        Y                    N		
Color:		
Age:		
<b>PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO YOUR DOG:</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Friendly	<input type="checkbox"/> A little shy	<input type="checkbox"/> Knows some obedience
<input type="checkbox"/> Gives Kisses	<input type="checkbox"/> Likes to bark	<input type="checkbox"/> Knows a lot of obedience
<input type="checkbox"/> Cheerful	<input type="checkbox"/> Has a mind of his/her own	<input type="checkbox"/> Jumps up
<input type="checkbox"/> Easy-going	<input type="checkbox"/> Pulls on walks	<input type="checkbox"/> Prefers adults to children
<input type="checkbox"/> Likes children	<input type="checkbox"/> Playfully nips/bites	<input type="checkbox"/> Friendly with strangers
<input type="checkbox"/> Cautious w/ children	<input type="checkbox"/> Reliably housebroken	<input type="checkbox"/> Cautious with strangers
<input type="checkbox"/> Smart	<input type="checkbox"/> Urinates when greeted	<input type="checkbox"/> Listens when s/he wants
<input type="checkbox"/> Obeys	<input type="checkbox"/> Some housebreaking mistakes	<input type="checkbox"/> Listens to me rather well
<input type="checkbox"/> "House dog"	<input type="checkbox"/> Travels well	<input type="checkbox"/> Tries to please
<input type="checkbox"/> "Outside dog"	<input type="checkbox"/> Dislikes other dogs	<input type="checkbox"/> May quiver w/ excitement
<input type="checkbox"/> Playful/feisty	<input type="checkbox"/> Likes attention	<input type="checkbox"/> Growls for good reasons
<input type="checkbox"/> Lots of energy	<input type="checkbox"/> "Wouldn't hurt a fly"	<input type="checkbox"/> Protective of owner
<input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't like to play rough	<input type="checkbox"/> Easily distracted	<input type="checkbox"/> Barks when excited
(over)		

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**PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS BRIEFLY:**

1) Has your dog ever bitten or nipped anyone? If yes, Describe

2) Has your dog been quarantined for any reason ? If yes, Describe

3) Has an animal warden or law enforcement officer ever contacted you about your dog? If yes, Describe

4) Do you know of any reason or behavior that may preclude or limit your dog from performing functions as a Fairfax Pets on Wheels volunteer? If yes, Describe

5) How does your dog respond when you take an object or food out of his/her mouth?

6) How does your dog respond to food being offered to him/her from a person's hand?

7) Other comments you may wish to share, (optional)

**Signature:**

**Date:**

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this form and for volunteering for this program.

**FAIRFAX PETS ON WHEELS, Inc.**  
**CANINE Behavior Assessment**  
**Part 2: to be completed by Evaluator**

I. EQUIPMENT CHECK & APPEARANCE	Rating A = Acceptable U = Unacceptable	EVALUATOR COMMENTS
<p>a. Dog is wearing equipment permitted for visiting by FPOW  <b>Acceptable:</b> collar/harness and leash are on FPOW approved list  <b>Unacceptable:</b> collar/harness or leash are not on FPOW approved list</p>		
<p>b. Dog is clean, well groomed / Nails are Clipped  <b>Acceptable:</b> clean, well groomed, including nails  <b>Unacceptable:</b> dirty, matted coat, unpleasant odor and/or open sores/skin lesions, stitches and other conditions that make it unpleasant for residents to touch the animal</p>		
II. SKILLS EXERCISE *Please rate this section at the end of the behavior evaluation	Rating A = Acceptable U = Unacceptable	EVALUATOR COMMENTS
<p>a. Evaluator approaches dog and calmly pets it multiple times throughout the evaluation:  <b>Acceptable:</b> Calm, sniffing, hackles normal, licks hand, enjoys petting submissive, aloof staring, rolling on back  <b>Unacceptable:</b> any signs of aggression, e.g. growling, staring, lip curl, raises hackles, barks, jumping up, excessive pawing, backs away, heavy panting, cowers, submissive urination</p>		
<p>b. Touch Sensitivity - Evaluator "plays" with dog and touches sensitive areas, e.g.: light pinch on ears, at the flank, toes and other sensitive areas, pulling tail, light tugging on collar, clumsy petting &amp; body hugging.  <b>Acceptable:</b> Dog reacts ticklish, but is forgiving; doesn't show any reaction, is curious and checks what Evaluator is doing  <b>Unacceptable:</b> Any sign of aggression: snapping, biting, nipping, growling, lip curl; dog cowers or backs away</p>		
III. SKILLS EXERCISE - (CONTINUED)	Rating A = Acceptable U = Unacceptable	EVALUATOR COMMENTS
<p>c. Reaction to Equipment - Evaluator &amp; helper stage a visiting situation with wheelchair and walker.  <b>Acceptable:</b> calm approach and trusting handler, a little cautious at first, but settles, indifferent, signs of minimal stress (hesitant approach or avoidance)  <b>Unacceptable:</b> overly distracted by tennis balls on walker - can't refocus dog; jumping up, any sign of aggressive behavior, including fear aggression, cowering, excessive pulling away from object</p>		
<p>d. Good Manners -  1. Owner walks dog on loose leash away from evaluator.  <b>Acceptable:</b> dog responds to owner, follows willingly. Leash is mostly loose and dog is able to focus  <b>Unacceptable:</b> dog is pulling constantly and hard to control; dog is unable to focus and does not respond to owner</p>		
<p>e. Reaction to Neutral Dog without nose-to-nose contact - Evaluator or helper takes "neutral dog" and proceeds to greet handler. Both dogs remain at their handler's side without contact. After greeting, both parties move on.  <b>Acceptable:</b> Dog may try to meet "neutral dog", but handler must keep good control and dog must remain at handler's side  <b>Unacceptable:</b> the dog being evaluated lunges at the neutral dog in an out of control, or overly exuberant manner</p>		
III. Aptitude of Handler/Pet Team	Rating A = Acceptable U = Unacceptable	EVALUATOR COMMENTS
<p>Evaluator simulates conditions that may be encountered on a visit:  a. Evaluator offers treat, dog takes it gently  <b>Acceptable:</b> Dog takes treat gently or not at all  <b>Unacceptable:</b> Dog takes treat in such a way that the dog's teeth touch the hand and/or "nip" the hand/fingers</p>		
<p>b. Evaluator makes loud noise like tossing clipboard or pebble can on floor  <b>Acceptable:</b> Cowers, startles, does nothing and remains in control of the handler  <b>Unacceptable:</b> Dog darts, panics or tries to flee, leaps into owner's lap, body climbs or urinates</p>		
IV. Evaluator's Opinion NOTE: An Unacceptable rating in any section other than section I (Equipment and Appearance) results in a Not Recommended rating	Rating A = Acceptable U = Unacceptable	EVALUATOR COMMENTS
<p>After reading the handler's completed questionnaire and observing the Handler/dog team's action and reactions during the practical evaluation, this team is:  <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended for an on-site pilot tour  <input type="checkbox"/> Not Presently Recommended, but recommended for re-testing at a later date - REQUIRES EVALUATOR COMMENTS  <input type="checkbox"/> Not Recommended - REQUIRES EVALUATOR COMMENTS</p>		