



Colorado Beagle Rescue, Inc.
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Precautions For The Foster Home

1. Should any abnormal behavior occur, such as challenges to your "pack leadership," any unprovoked aggressive behavior toward other dogs in your household after the first few days you have him, or physiological changes such as excessive urination, seizures, or excessive water intake, contact Colorado Beagle Rescue, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as CBR), immediately. Do not stare into the dog's eyes (direct eye contact or bare your teeth in a big smile) . This is usually a sign of aggression and the new dog is frustrated as it is! You or your children should not get down and put your face right in the dog's face! Get to know him/her first. Caution is the key here.
2. Watch for "stress" behavior. The stress of the animal's recent experiences can cause a variety of "uncharacteristic for the breed" behaviors such as: marking in the house, excessive chewing or barking, extreme aggression or shyness, or heavy panting. Your patience and consistent treatment of, and your verbal reassurances to the dog are critical in relieving this stress.
3. Take the Beagle to the veterinarian within the first few days and have her/him administer a complete series of vaccinations: DHLPP (distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis, parainfluenza, parvovirus), and rabies. Check with CBR first to see if the dog has already had any of these vaccinations, and whether other medications such as "Heartgard" for heartworms are required. This will ensure that the dog is current in his protection against these diseases (you may also want to give your own personal dog a booster every six months instead of every year). If the dog is extremely overweight, the thyroid should be checked. Remember to check with the CBR Board Member for authorization on any other vet expenses. In case of medical emergency, the dog will be given necessary care and CBR will be notified immediately thereafter.
4. Expect diarrhea!! The rescue dog has had many water and food changes in recent days, and his intestinal organization is probably running amuck. Luckily, Beagles tend to have cast iron stomachs and recover rather quickly.
5. Kennel cough. If the Beagle has come from a city or county shelter, it probably has been exposed to kennel cough (we usually know if a "shelter" dog has kennel cough but it can occur after you take it home). Keep the dog separated as much as possible from your other pets. Contact CBR or see your veterinarian if any cough develops. Don't panic. Kennel cough is treatable and usually not injurious to the animal, although the cough may sound terrible.
6. Don't assume a rescue dog is HOUSEBROKEN, even though he/she is an adult. Take the dog outside every 2-3 hours and praise him when he does his "business".
7. If young children are present in your foster home, limit the time the children and dog are together for the first several days. Never leave young children alone with a new foster dog until you feel confident that the children will respect the dog's situation.
8. Close observation of the dog when in your yard is essential to ensure that the dog is not a climber, digger, or jumper; something that might have led to him becoming a rescue dog in the first place. For the first few days, take him outside in your yard on a long leash. When you feel he's settling down, go out with him without the leash on.
9. Complete an Information/Evaluation Report. Make notes of the dog's basic temperament and behavior as soon as he starts to settle into your home. This will assist greatly in matching this dog to a prospective adoptive home.
10. If any questions, call CBR.