

Cleveland County Animal Control Policy Requirements for Rescue Groups

Rescue Groups Defined:

G.S. 130A-192(c)

“Approved rescue organization” – means a nonprofit corporation or association that cares for stray animals that has been favorably assessed by the operator of the animal shelter through the application of written standards.

“Approved Rescue Groups/Organizations”, are allowed to pull animals from Cleveland County Animal Control. Pursuant to G.S. 130A-192 (a), all animals are required to be held for the duration of 72 hours. However, in the event that an animal is surrendered to Cleveland County Animal Control, the animal may be released immediately. Following the period of impoundment, animals being pursued by “Approved Rescues” will be held up to an additional 72 hours, as long as the health and wellbeing of the animal is suitable for rescue, and there is available space at the shelter. This determination will be made by Animal Control Supervisors.

Following the release of an animal(s) to an Approved Rescue, Cleveland County Animal Control will require that the animal(s) be provided with the appropriate care that includes spay/neuter, updated vaccinations, and health reconditioning (if needed), etc.

Tax Status:

Rescues must obtain non-profit, tax-exempt status 501(c)3.

Rescue Application:

In order to be considered for approval as an “Approved Rescue Group” by the Cleveland County Animal Control, groups must submit the Cleveland County Animal Control’s Rescue Application, along with 3 letters of reference, one of which must be submitted by a Licensed Veterinarian.

Cleveland County Animal Control will notify the group once approved or denied, and approval will be granted at the discretion of Cleveland County Animal Control.

Pull Fees:

Rabies Vaccine (Required): \$10 (4 months of age)

Housing for additional 72 hours \$15 per day, Weekends are exempt.

Daily Contact:

To ensure that information is transferred correctly and efficiently, Cleveland County Animal Control requires that all interaction be performed through emails. All phone calls will be referred to the email address.

animal.shelter@clevelandcounty.com

When requirements are met by a Rescue Group, Cleveland County Animal Control will agree to allow the Group to view and temperament test the animals during normal business hours.