

True Friends

Volunteers Rules For Dog Walking

1. No fence or cage fighting or chasing! Do not let two dogs bark or fence fight at each other through the fence or inside the kennel. It may seem like they are getting exercise this way, but they are really reinforcing reactive behavior. Distract them with balls or treats and lead one away, praising if it comes to you when you call. If the dog you are walking will not break from barking at a dog in an adjacent area, take it out of the area. It is best to end this behavior before the dog gets “worked up”, even if that means leaving the area immediately.
2. The Six-Foot Rule! **Never approach another dog, person or vehicle.** Keep at least 6 feet apart at all times! If all walkers obey this rule, we will never have to deal with a dog fight or bite.
3. Always be aware of your surroundings and the location of other volunteers with dogs nearby. Take care when rounding blind corners. Communicate with your team members when you are forced to pass closer than 6’ from each other. Carry a cell phone if possible and have the shelters phone number, **570-278-1228**, and a “buddy” walker’s number in case of emergency.
4. Make sure all gates are closed **PROPERLY** when you return them and dogs are in their proper kennel.
5. Always read card information on dogs and only walk dogs you are authorized for and can handle. Do not go in unauthorized area (back kennel) unless permitted.
6. Always use the proper equipment. Make sure your hand is through the leash handle and tightly gripped. Slip leash slide must fit dog’s neck tightly.
7. **NEVER** try to break up a dog fight or put your hands or body in the way. Yell for help and get someone to get the catch pole.
8. Please do not walk the dogs close to the road. The traffic is too heavy and it’s unsafe for you and the animals.



9. Please mark walking cards in appropriate spot using w – walking or y-yard.
10. If a dog appears to be sick or reluctant to go out for a walk, please inform a staff member. DO NOT force any dog to go out.
11. Always wear appropriate clothing. Sturdy shoes with good tread are a must; no open-toed sandals. Often the floor is wet and slippery, so make sure you have your dog under control. The outdoor paths can be wet or icy as well. We recommend you wear jeans or some other type of sturdy pants; often the dogs are so excited to see you they jump up and their toenails can be very sharp.
- I have been aware that True Friends does **NOT** recommend wearing shorts while dog walking, but encourages long pants due to safety issues. If I choose to wear shorts, it is my own risk and I take full responsibility.

Signature _____ Date _____

At True Friends, we greatly value our volunteers as an indispensable part of our overall team. We strive to maintain an atmosphere of respect, cooperation, and support for each other so we can achieve our mission of helping homeless animals. If you cannot respectfully abide by our rules and guidelines, you will no longer be allowed to participate in our volunteer program.

Print _____

Signature _____ Date _____



16332 SR 706 Montrose, PA 18801

"Giving Animals a Safe Refuge & Hope for a Second Chance"