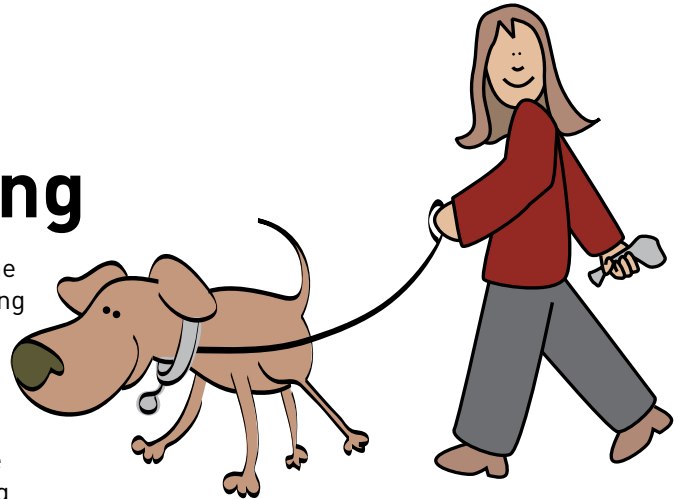




Pound Dog Walking

Thank you for signing up. We thank you, and so do the pound dogs. The more the dogs are walked by a caring and patient volunteer, the better behaved they will become and, they'll be more adoptable. Of course, they also love the exercise and attention. In return, they give you the chance to interact with a happy and very appreciative animal. It also offers you some exercise and that good feeling that comes from doing something for others in need.



The Program

Pound dogs in Yellowknife belong to the Great Slave Animal Hospital (GSAH) through a contract with the City. The NWT SPCA works in cooperation with the GSAH to care for the animals and helps to get them adopted. The NWT SPCA does not currently have its own shelter. To ensure that the pound dogs get regular exercise, the NWT SPCA operates the Volunteer Dog Walking Program.

Volunteer requirements

Volunteer dog walkers must:

- Be 18 years old or older
- Participate in an NWT SPCA dog walking orientation session
- Be a member of the NWT SPCA (for insurance purposes)
- Be in satisfactory physical condition
- Follow all rules of the program

The NWT SPCA, in cooperation with the GSAH, reserves the right to revoke or deny membership in the program at its discretion.

When you can walk pound dogs

Once you have fulfilled all of the above volunteer requirements, you can walk dogs at any time the GSAH is open to the public. You can walk dogs for any length of time and as often as you like. For example, you can walk one dog for 30 minutes, or three dogs for 10 minutes each. They appreciate it all!

GSAH hours of operation

Monday to Friday: 8:00 am to 7:00 pm
Saturday: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Sunday: Closed

Where you can walk pound dogs

Once you have selected a pound dog for walking (see next page for instructions), you can select your walking route, while following a few rules:

- Dogs must be walked in the Kam Lake area only, including alongside the roads or in nearby bush.
- Dogs must be on a leash at all times.
- It is forbidden to take pound dogs in a vehicle.
- Always pick up after the dogs – use poop bags everywhere! And deposit in the dumpster in front of the GSAH.

How to select and walk a pound dog

1. First visit the front counter at the GSAH. Give them your SPCA Dog Walking card and they will provide you with the key to the kennel. This is a good time to ask them which dogs you should walk. If you need assistance with taking a dog out of the kennel, please inform the staff and they will find someone to help. This may take a few moments as it is a busy office. Please be patient.
2. Go to the Pound Dog kennel (left hand side). Open the door carefully, just in case a dog is loose inside. Shut the door firmly behind you.
3. Look at all the dogs in the kennels. Find the ones that best suit your personal abilities – eg. strength, size, personality. Only walk the dogs that you are capable of handling and that you feel comfortable walking! This is very important. The clinic can offer advice on which dogs to walk, but in the end, you must be very comfortable with the choice. Trust your gut! Watch for signs that the dog may not want to be walked – eg. cowering, avoiding eye contact, aggressive behaviour, or staring. If you have any doubts, ask GSAH staff for assistance.
4. BEFORE selecting a dog to walk, you must check the paperwork on the dog's kennel. This includes:

Cage card – filled out by GSAH staff

Pound form – filled out by City bylaw officers

- Dogs must be at the GSAH for more than 5 days before they can be walked.

- Some dogs must wait up to 3 weeks to be walked because of vaccinations.
- Some dogs may have other special circumstances, such as injuries or recovering from surgery, and cannot be walked.
- Some dogs may have behavioural problems and cannot be walked.
- Some dogs may be in the kennel at their owner's expense, and cannot be walked by volunteers.

ALWAYS check the paperwork on the dogs' kennels to determine if a dog can be walked. If you have any doubts or concerns, please ask the GSAH staff for help!

5. Once you have chosen a dog, select an appropriate leash and chain collar by the main door. Also take a plastic bag for picking up your dog's poop.
6. CAREFULLY open the dog's kennel and firmly close it behind you. (Be careful not to let a dog escape into the main area.) Place the collar on the dog and attach the leash. This may take patience as the dog may be excited.
7. Once attached, take the dog out of the kennel and quickly proceed outside. Some dogs may try to fight through their cages (protecting their turf). Stay calm and get your dog outside. Shut the main door firmly behind you.
8. Return the key to the GSAH staff at the front desk. This is important, as there is a limited number of keys.

There is a metal tie-up on the outside of the clinic building (explained during the orientation session). You can attach the dog to this tie-up while you return the key. But please be quick – you don't want the excited dog to get tangled.

9. Go for a great walk! (See where to walk above) Pick up the dog's poop as needed. If the dog you are walking escapes and gets away from you at any time, tell GSAH staff immediately.
10. When you are ready to return the dog, you must get the key from the GSAH staff at the front desk.
11. Bring the dog back to his kennel. Go inside his kennel and secure the cage door before you remove the leash and collar. ALWAYS ensure the dog has water in his dish after a walk. Firmly secure his kennel door when you leave.
12. Fill out the Dog Walking Info Sheet for each dog that you walk. It is on a clipboard near the leashes and collars. Include any comments about the dog, such as behaviour and nature. This is helpful for adoptions. If you noticed any health related issues, eg. a limp, please tell GSAH staff immediately.
13. If you interested in walking a second dog, please repeat the entire process of selecting and walking a dog. Don't forget to return the key before you go for a walk!
14. Before you leave for the day, remember to get your Dog Walking Card from the GSAH staff. That helps them to know who is still out walking dogs.

Other important information and tips

Dog walking

- Always be patient and kind with every dog you encounter. Many of them come from bad experiences and lack of care. They count on you to understand and gently control them. NEVER hit or physically discipline a dog.
- Only walk ONE dog at a time. One dog walker = one dog.
- Always use a chain collar when walking pound dogs. They are the best way to control a dog and keep him safe. Listen carefully during the orientation on how to use one properly and refer to the poster in the kennel.
- If you ever feel uncomfortable or have difficulty with a dog, please return the dog to his kennel and/or seek help from GSAH staff.
- Please keep any personal information on cage cards or pound forms confidential, eg. names of people associated with the animals.

Children

- Children (under 16) may walk alongside a dog walker, but the adult must always hold the leash and be full charge of the dog. The adult takes full responsibility for all liability associated with the child.
- Children (under 16) may NOT enter the kennel. They must wait outside while the adult dog walker gets the dog.

Weather

- Use common sense when it comes to weather and dog walking. Most dogs should not be taken for walks when it is -25 C or colder. An exception includes large dogs with thick coats. In warm weather, watch for excessive panting and consider cutting walks short, especially for dogs with thick coats.

Special circumstances

- Some dogs may not be ready to go for a walk but would benefit from quiet petting and human contact. Please ask GSAH for more details.
- Puppies who are too young to go for a walk also greatly benefit from human contact. If you see puppies, ask GSAH staff if you can play with them.
- If you are interested in helping cats at the pound, please contact the NWT SPCA.

Dog treats

- Please do not bring treats from home for the dogs. There are usually dog cookies available in the kennel building near the leashes. Too many different treats upset the dogs' stomachs. And be careful when giving a treat to a dog – some haven't been taught good manners!
- If you'd like to give something to the dogs, we always need donations of good quality leashes and chain collars.

Thank you very much for joining the SPCA Dog Walking Program. The dogs will appreciate every moment of your attention and that makes us all feel good. Please carefully read all of this brochure and follow all of the program rules. They are meant to make this a safe and fun experience for everyone involved.

We are always interested in hearing your feedback about the program. Please contact the NWT SPCA at nwtspca@theedge.ca or call 669-0068 (voice mail).

Have a great walk! And thank you.



Dog Walking Waiver

tTHIS AGREEMENT made on the _____ day of _____, 20_____.

Acknowledgment of Participants Responsibility, Express Assumption of Risk,
Waiver, Release of Liability, and Release of All Claims

Between: _____ your name

(herein called the "Participant")

OF THE FIRST PART

-and-

The Northwest Territories Society

for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (hereinafter called the "Society")

OF THE SECOND PART

READ CAREFULLY

Please read this form carefully and be aware that, in signing up and participating in the Shelter Dog Walking program, you will be waiving and releasing all claims for injuries, arising out of this program, that you or the above participant might sustain. I know that injuries, damages and death can occur by natural causes or activities of other persons, animals or third parties, either as a result of negligence, intentional actions or because of other reasons. I understand that risks of such injuries, damages or death are involved and I appreciate that I will have to exercise care and caution for myself and any other persons involved. I understand that there may not be medical facilities available for any injury, damage or death that may occur. The terms "I," "me," and "my" also refer to parents or guardians as well as the participants in the program. In registering for the program, you are agreeing as follows:

As a participant in the program, I recognize and acknowledge that there are certain risks of physical injury, and I agree to assume the full risk of any injuries, including death, damages or loss which I may sustain as a result of participating, in any manner, in any and all activities connected with or associated with the Shelter Dog Walking program. I further recognize and acknowledge that all activities involving exertion or involving contact with other persons or animals can be hazardous recreational activities and involve substantial risks of injury.

I further understand and agree that the terms such as "participation," "program," and "activities," referred to in this Agreement, include all exercises and physical movements of any nature while I am participating in the Shelter Dog Walking program, and further include the provision of or failure to provide proper instructions

or supervision, the use and adjustment of any and all machinery, equipment, and apparatus, and anything related to my use of the services, facilities, or premises involved in the Shelter Dog Walking program and any travel required to or from the premises involved or any other location.

TO THE FULLEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW, I AGREE TO WAIVE AND RELINQUISH ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, AND DISCHARGE CLAIMS that I may have as a result of participating in the Shelter Dog Walking program against the Society, any and all other participating individuals or organizations, any and all independent contractors, officers, agents, servants and employees of the Society or any third party and independent contractors, and any and all other persons and entities, of whatever nature, that might be directly or indirectly liable for any injuries that I might sustain while participating in the Shelter Dog Walking program. (The parties described in the preceding sentence are referred to as "released parties" in the remainder of the Agreement)

I DO HEREBY FULLY RELEASE AND DISCHARGE THE SOCIETY AND THE OTHER RELEASED PARTIES FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY AND FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS for injuries, including death, damage or loss which I may have or which may accrue to me on account of my participation in the Shelter Dog Walking program.

I FURTHER AGREE TO INDEMNIFY, HOLD HARMLESS AND DEFEND THE SOCIETY, AND ANY AND ALL OTHER RELEASED PARTIES, FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS resulting from injuries, including death, damages and losses sustained by anyone, and arising out of, connected with, or in any way associated with my conduct and the activities of the Shelter Dog Walking program. **OVER>>**



Dog Walking Waiver

I understand and intend that this assumption of risk and release is binding upon my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, and includes any minors accompanying me.

This Agreement is intended to be as broad and as inclusive as permitted by law. If any Article, Section or any portion of any Section of this Agreement is determined to be unenforceable or invalid for any reason whatsoever that unenforceability or invalidity shall not affect the enforceability or validity of the remaining portions of this Agreement and such unenforceable portion thereof shall be severed from the remainder of this Agreement.

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the Northwest Territories and the federal laws of Canada applicable therein and each of the parties hereto agrees irrevocably to conform to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories.

I understand the nature of the Shelter Dog Walking program for which I am registering, and I HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THIS ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PARTICIPANTS RESPONSIBILITY, EXPRESS ASSUMPTION OF RISK, WAIVER, RELEASE OF LIABILITY, AND RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS AGREEMENT. I further understand that any advisements or warnings of the particular risks of this program that I subsequently receive will be incorporated by reference into and become a part of this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF:

Witness

Date

Participant

Date

Parents or Guardians signature for persons under 19 years of age:

Signature

Date

I FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY ASSUME ALL RISKS OF INJURY, DAMAGES OR DEATH AND FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY EXECUTE THIS AGREEMENT AND NOTWITHSTANDING SUCH RISKS, I AGREE TO PARTICIPATE in the Shelter Dog Walking program.

Additional Warnings for Aerobics Activities

Aerobic exercise is an activity in which, despite careful and proper preparation, instruction, medical advice, conditioning, and equipment, there is still a substantial risk of injury. Dependent upon a person's physical condition, age and skill level, aerobics can involve a substantial risk of injury including but not limited to:

- Heart attack, stroke and circulatory problems.
- Back injury.
- Bone and joint injuries.
- Shin splints.
- Muscle strain and other muscle injuries.
- Foot problems.

I have read and fully understand the above risk warnings of the Shelter Dog Walking program. I understand that the Society does not and cannot provide insurance or protection against injuries sustained by the Shelter Dog Walking program participants, and I fully accept the risk of injury.



Date: _____

membership form

BECOME A MEMBER AND KNOW THAT YOU'RE DOING YOUR PART TO HELP..

The NWT SPCA strives to reduce the number of unwanted animals by educating the public on the benefits of spaying and neutering. Our fundraising helps to maintain this and other programs.



Dog Walking Orientation Date: _____

Would you like to help out by volunteering? Check off what you're interested in and we'll contact you when we need help...

Please check one:

One Year

Personal membership – \$15

Family membership – \$30

Three Years

Personal membership – \$40

Family membership – \$80

- Fund Raising
- Event Coordination
- Fostering
- Adoption
- Spay and Neuter Loans
- Legislation
- Membership
- Public Education
- Newsletter
- Advertising / Promotion
- Pet Calendar

Name: _____

Box Number: _____ Street Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Home phone: _____

Work phone: _____

Email: _____

We send out an email every week with pet related local information as well as the homeless animals in the pound at the Great Slave Animal Hospital. If you wish to NOT receive this email please check here.

IDEAS: Have some ideas on things you'd like to see the NWT SPCA do?

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Paid?: _____

Waiver: _____

Membership Number: _____

Dog Walker Number: _____

Date Received: _____

Event: _____

Valid from: _____

To: _____

Card Sent: _____

Updated: May 2005

NWT SPCA
 Box 2278 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7
 Tel: (867) 669-0068 Email: nwtspca@theedge.ca
 Website: www.nwtspca.com

Thank you to our corporate sponsors...

