

# Town & Country Humane Society

## RISK ASSESSMENT

There are risks associated with shelter environment that you must be aware of. Once you are familiar with these basic hazards and risk-avoidance measures, please sign at the bottom and return this to us when you arrive.

**ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS:** Kennel and animal housing areas can be noisy and chaotic places. Risks can include, but are not limited to:

- \*Hearing damage
- \*Trips and falls due to obstacles (hoses, dishes, pet toys, etc.) or slippery surfaces (wet floors, soiled floors or siewalks)
- \*Cuts and scratches from fencing and gates
- \*Bumps and bruises from low clearance gates and cage covers
- \*Injuries from unlevel areas in the yard or obstacles concealed in overgrown areas
- \*Possible contact with indigenous wildlife and insects common to rural areas (snakes, spiders, wasps, bees, raccoon, rabbits, etc.)

**ANIMAL HANDLING RISKS:** Most of our animals are fond of people and enjoy attention, however situations can arise that could result in harm. Risks can include, but are not limited to:

- \*Cuts and scratches from overly friendly animals (toenails, submissive mouthing, over-exuberant play)
- \*Bites from fearful or aggressive animals
- \*Bumps, bruises, cuts or scratches resulting from being tripped or pushed by an animal
- \*Injuries from tools used for grooming

**ZOONOTIC RISKS:** While Town & Country Humane Society tries to assure the health of all pets in our care, exposure to contagens is always a possibility.

Risks may include, but are not limited to:

- \*Allergic reactions or respiratory issues from dust, dander, mold, etc.
- \*Exposure to viral or bacterial infections that may be transferred to humans
- \*Exposure to external parasites (mites, fleas, ticks, etc.)
- \*Exposure to intestinal parasites

## MINIMIZING RISKS

\*Wear appropriate clothing that fits properly. Skid resistant shoes and jeans are highly recommended.

\*Be aware of your surroundings and help keep walkways unobstructed

\*Use caution when approaching or being approached by animals outside their enclosures.

\*Always ask permission before opening gates or putting hands into animal enclosures

\*Use caution when handling animals that are unfamiliar with you

\*Be attentive to animals' warning signs

\*Be sure that gates, doors, and cages are securely closed to prevent escapes

\*Check for ticks on a regular basis, especially if you have been in unmowed areas

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I have read, understand, and will adhere to the risk information above; and any additional safety instructions given to me at Town & Country Humane Society.

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