

HAMPTON ROADS PET RESOURCES

This guide does not serve as an endorsement or promotion of any particular organization(s).

REHOMING YOUR ANIMAL

Adoptapet.com

Visit rehome.adoptapet.com to create a profile of your pet, and it will be seen by millions of pet adopters. You then will have the ability to review applications on your pet, as well as meet possible new adopters. Rehome will provide you with everything you need to protect the transfer of your pet ownership. It is simple, safe, and FREE.

To List Your Pet

1. Go to <https://rehome.adoptapet.com/>
2. Create a pet profile
3. Be sure to include a positive description and quality pictures

Your pet will then be featured. It's that easy!

Rehome also allows for you to ask for an adoption fee. If you choose.

Additionally, Rehome encourages you to meet potential adopters in Petco stores.

Describing Your Pet

When writing a profile for your pet who needs a new home, you might be tempted to share all the reasons why you are rehoming your pet or share all the "negative" information up front. Don't! Always be honest but always remain positive.

It's important to remember that what might be negative to you may not matter to others. For example, a dog who does not like cats might make a perfect pet for someone with a cat allergy! Also, remember that the word "children" has a different meaning to everyone. Someone might consider an 18-year-old a "child" and see "no children" as a reason they cannot adopt, but your pet might only need a home without toddlers. Use the profile to showcase your pet.

Remember That Your Pet's Personality is Always a Positive

Instead of...

Needs a lot of exercise
Is aggressive towards children
Needs a lot of attention
Doesn't get along with cats/dogs

Try...

Will make a great running buddy
Needs a home without children
Loves people
Prefers to be your only pet

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Don't Rule Out Adopters Before They Can Contact You

You may think your dog would do best in a house with a yard, but what if someone lives in a condo with a dog park? Or someone who runs on the beach every day? Your cat might prefer someone who works from home – but what about someone who works part-time, or a house with lots of family members with someone usually at home? Be open-minded and encourage potential families to contact you.

Make Sure You Use an Email Address that You Check Regularly

The Rehome sites allows adopters to ask you questions using the platform and you should get an email to alert you. Don't let questions go unanswered!

Here is an example of a positive description for a dog named Luna. Luna needs a new home because she is not getting along with the three young children in the home. Her mom writes:

Luna is a sweet and friendly dog who has lived with another dog and even a cat! She is very smart and would love an owner who can take her for walks and teach her tricks. She is housebroken and kennel-trained. Luna is a very loyal dog. She is not pushy and will seek your affection on her own terms. Luna would prefer not to live in a home with small children. She is spayed, microchipped and up to date on her vaccines.

Most Importantly – Use Quality Pictures

The best profiles have a variety of pictures where you can clearly see the pet. We suggest at least four – one of the pet's face, one of the pet with a family member or other pets, one that shows the pet's size and, if possible, a video. Pictures should be in focus, colorful and without a filter.

PetFinder

Petfinder is a for-profit internet company that operates the largest online pet adoption website serving all of North America. The company reports that it currently lists more than 315,000 adoptable pets from nearly 14,000 animal shelters and rescue groups. While you are not able to list your pet to rehome on PetFinder, they do offer resources and tools on their site.

www.petfinder.com/pet-adoption/dog-adoption/dog-rehoming/

Rescue Me

Need help today? Fill out a short survey to post an animal in minutes. Within 2 hours, Rescue Me will send information about your animal to hundreds of adopters in your area interested in your breed. Many people receive adoption inquiries the same day.

www.rescueme.org

SOS Pets, Hampton Roads, VA Facebook Group

This page is for people, shelters and rescues to post animals that are in need of homes.

www.facebook.com/groups/1619023698364694/

MORE TIPS FOR REHOMING YOUR ANIMAL

It's not an easy decision to find a new home for your pet. Finding a home for your pet on your own and keeping them out of the shelter is beneficial to both your pet and others in need. The shelter can be a very stressful environment for any pet.

A healthy pet is easier to re-home. Make certain your pet is up to date on all vaccinations. Provide copies of the vet paperwork. If your pet is not spayed or neutered, we highly recommend getting this done. Please refer to the Spay/ Neuter Section of this guide for low-cost services.

Ask family, friends and co-workers if they know anyone who is looking for a new pet. It is better for your pet if you are able to re-home him or her yourself. Ask people in person, but also leave a flyer so they can contact you if they know of someone or decide to adopt your pet themselves.

Create flyers, post to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Next Door, and on church, work or veterinary/pet store, restaurant and coffee shop bulletin boards. Make colorful and creative flyers highlighting special information about your pet.

- Be as descriptive as possible (name, weight, breed, gender, pet's health, play habits, likes & dislikes)
- Tell a story – many write the story from the animal's perspective.
- Include recent photo(s)
- Include your name and contact information (phone number / email address).
- Include the date you posted & date you need a home by
- Consider asking for a rehoming fee. This will help cover the cost of getting your pet spayed/neutered, and up to date on vaccinations prior to rehoming. You can always choose to donate the fee to your local animal shelter!

LOST & FOUND PETS

Lost & Found Pets- Hampton Roads VA

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lostandfoundpetshamptonroads>

VA LOST PET Facebook Pages

www.facebook.com/notes/lost-found-dogs-virginia/va-lost-found-pet-fb-pages-groups/755773484499296/?fref=mentions

Pawboost

www.pawboost.com