



How to Identify Reputable Rescues

Are all Rescues alike?

Absolutely not!

Some breeders masquerade as a Rescue, taking advantage of the good reputation that responsible Rescues have worked hard to establish.

Some Rescues are primarily interested in getting animals out the door and are unavailable after the adoption if the animal has an undisclosed medical or behavioral problem.

How can you know if the Rescue is a reputable Rescue?

- ✓ Reputable Rescues are concerned about the pet overpopulation crisis and will either spay/neuter the animal or require that the adopter spay/neuter the animal.
- ✓ Reputable Rescues never breed an animal. They don't produce puppies/kittens, but they will rescue puppies/kittens.
- ✓ Reputable Rescues are always concerned for the animal's well being.
 - The foster animals live indoors in a socialized environment.
 - The animal will have a vet/health check and been brought up-to-date on vaccinations including rabies and boosters; checked for heartworm and either receiving treatment or on preventative. Paperwork with the dates of vaccinations and testing are provided to the adopter.
 - The Rescue usually does not allow on-the-spot adoptions.
 - The Rescue will screen potential applicants.
 - The Rescue will conduct a Home Visit.
 - The Rescue will conduct at least one follow-up call or visit.
 - The Rescue is willing take the animal back if the adopter is no longer willing or able to care for the animal.
- ✓ Reputable Rescues have a written Adoption Agreement, don't require cash payment and don't sell animals in a parking lot or off the back of a truck.
- ✓ Ask around. Ask area veterinarians; check with other Rescues; ask your friends, relatives and neighbors. Chances are someone you know either is involved in Rescue or knows someone who is and will be able to give you feedback on the Rescue you are considering.

Alliance of Wisconsin Animal Rehoming Efforts

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