



# Heartland Humane shelter & care

## The Heartland Promise

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*A Partnership Program Ensuring Lifelong Care for Your Companion Animals*

Heartland Humane Shelter & Care  
398 SW Twin Oaks Cir.  
Corvallis, OR 97333  
541-757-9000  
[www.heartlandhumane.org](http://www.heartlandhumane.org)

## Program Overview

### Ensuring Lifelong Care for Your Animal

The laws governing probate are complicated as are the laws governing animals. Most people do not know how to use the laws to guarantee their pets have quality, lifelong care.

For example, while animals are classified as property in Oregon, since 1999 they have been exempt from the probate process. This allows them to move immediately into the care of a shelter or loving home, reducing the stress of loss.

Currently, money cannot be left to surviving pets. However, a caretaker can be named for your pet and a sum of money can be given specifically to provide for that pet. We encourage you to think carefully about who can and is willing to provide the lifelong care your animal deserves.

### The Heartland Process

Oregon law allows you to name Heartland Humane Shelter & Care (a 501(c)(3) charity) as the caretaker of your companion animals. We have been caring for animals in Benton County since 1966 and are experts at making successful matches between animals and people. Our adoption rates are very high and we take extreme care in placing Promise Pets. By making a planned gift to Heartland we are able to continue our humane work and we are able to guarantee lifetime placement for your beloved animals. We will utilize our foster care network, our contacts with animal lovers across the country, our volunteer corps, our relationships with local veterinarians and our well trained staff to ensure your pet's transition into a new home is as smooth as possible.

### Enrolling Your Pets in the Heartland Promise Program

There are many ways to leave a legacy for your pets and to make Benton County a more compassionate community. Planned gifts such as making Heartland a beneficiary of your IRA or life insurance policy are just two ways. Many people choose to name Heartland in their will. We recommend you discuss all of the options with your estate planner, as we cannot provide tax or legal advice. However, we are always available to answer specific questions about any of our programs.

The Heartland Promise Program is available to long-term volunteers who are unable to provide a financial gift but have donated their time and energy to caring for animals through Heartland.

In order to guarantee your gift to Heartland we recommend the following language:

For the benefit of: Heartland Humane Shelter & Care Federal tax #: 93-0574297  
Residing at: 398 SW Twin Oaks Circle, Corvallis, OR 97333

### A Smooth Transition for Your Pets

Please fill out the attached Pet Profile. This form provides us with the vital information we need to find the best home for your animal. You may wish to submit a copy of this for each of your pets when you discuss your plans with us. Furthermore, you may want to keep a copy of it with all of your other important documents pertaining to your estate.

## Enrollment Form

**Easy Step-By-Step Instructions**

Once you have determined that you would like Heartland Humane Shelter & Care to find a new home for your pet(s) in the event of your death or medical incapacity, you just need to follow these simple steps:

- 1. Designate a planned gift to Heartland Humane Shelter & Care.
- 2. Complete the information on this Pet Enrollment Form.
- 3. Fill out a Pet Profile for each animal you wish to enroll in the Heartland Promise Program. Please complete a profile for each
- 4. Return this pet Enrollment Form and Pet Profile(s) to Heartland

**Please enroll my pet in the Heartland Promise:**

I have already made provisions for a Planned gift to Heartland.       I am in the process of making a planned gift to Heartland.

Please specify type of gift (i.e. bequest, charitable remainder trust, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Optional, for Heartland’s planning purposes only, please specify the approximate future value of your gift: \$\_\_\_\_\_

I have included a profile for my pet(s). Please list the names of the pets you are enrolling in the Heartland Promise: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Best time to contact you: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Bequest Form

### Heartland Promise Program for Care of Surviving Pets

Following is suggested language for your will, trust, or other estate papers which will enable you to direct a planned gift to Heartland Humane Shelter & Care and provide for the welfare of your surviving pets. This suggested language can be modified to meet your specific needs.

If you do make provisions for Heartland to care for your surviving pets, we hope that you will share this information with our organization: [donate@heartlandhumane.org](mailto:donate@heartlandhumane.org); 541-757-9000.

### Suggested Language

I wish to provide for the care and welfare of any and all pets that I own at the time of my death. It is my desire that they live the balance of their lives in a stable home environment. Accordingly, I give, devise, and bequeath my pets to my spouse. If my spouse does not survive me:

- A. I give, devise and bequeath my pets to Heartland Humane Shelter & Care (Heartland), 398 SW Twin Oaks Circle, Corvallis, OR 97333.
- B. I give, devise and bequeath the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to Heartland, to be used for the care and maintenance of my pets while they are in the custody of Heartland and for the permanent placement of my pets. Heartland is authorized to pay all expenses that it deems reasonable in its sole and absolute discretion in connection with such care, maintenance, and placement.
- C. I request that Heartland arrange for the permanent placement of my pets with a member of my family or family friend. If Heartland is unable to do so, I request that it arrange for such placement in a suitable home through Heartland's pet adoption program. I understand, however, that adoption may be precluded if a pet is seriously ill or injured, has a vicious temperament, or for any other reason would be a danger to an adopter or the public.
- D. In any event, I request that my pets be cared for and treated as household pets and receive all reasonable care; provided, however, that in the event of serious illness or injury, I do not desire that extraordinary means be used to prolong their lives; and provided further that Heartland may euthanize any pet determined by Heartland in its sole and absolute discretion to be seriously ill or injured, to have a vicious temperament, or to be a danger to an adopter or the public for any reason.
- E. If I am not survived by any pet, the gift to Heartland of \$\_\_\_\_\_ provided in paragraph B above shall be used by Heartland for the support of its general operations.

## Pet Profile

### Section A: Basic Information About You and Your Pet

(Please fill out this section completely)

Owner Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Representative (lawyer, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Pet's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of animal (check one):  Dog  Cat  Rabbit  Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

(check one):  Male  Neutered Male  Female  Spayed Female

Please describe your pet's physical attributes (i.e. breed, color, weight, short/long hair, special markings, etc.) Please attach a color photo of your pet, if available. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Pet's age: \_\_\_\_\_ How long has the animal lived with you? \_\_\_\_\_

Does your pet have a microchip?  No  Yes

List important things a new owner should know about your pet:

What beliefs/philosophy about appropriate care would you like your pet's new owner to have in common with you (i.e. pets should be treated like members of the family)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The information about my pet supplied on this form is accurate as of (date): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### Your Pet's General Lifestyle

How would you describe your pet's current living situation (i.e. very quiet, few visitors, noisy, busy, frequent visitors)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Where does your pet primarily live?  Indoors  Outdoors  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the ideal home for your pet (attach additional sheets if necessary)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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What do you think would help your pet adjust to a new home (favorite toy, blanket)? \_\_\_\_\_

How would you describe your pet's personality? \_\_\_\_\_

Describe any bad manners your pet has: \_\_\_\_\_

List things your pet loves (i.e. activities, games, scratching, etc.):

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List things your pet dislikes/fears (i.e. thunder, fireworks, dogs, etc.):

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Is there any part of your pet's body that (s)he doesn't like to have touched? \_\_\_\_\_

What has your pet done to show that (s)he doesn't like it? \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your pet's daily schedule (feeding times, exercise, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

What do you feed your pet (brand name, canned, dry, table food, treats, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_

How much do you feed your pet? \_\_\_\_\_

When do you feed your pet (once daily, twice daily, p.m., a.m., etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_

What are his/her favorite activities? \_\_\_\_\_

Where does your pet sleep at night? \_\_\_\_\_

Where is your pet when you are home? \_\_\_\_\_

How many hours each day do you interact with your pet? \_\_\_\_\_

Where do you leave your pet when you are not home? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the longest period of time your pet is alone? \_\_\_\_\_

Does your pet travel well in the car?  Yes  No

Does your pet go with you on vacation?  Yes  No If no, who takes care of him/her when you are away (which boarding kennel, pet sitter, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Pet's Health**

Who is your pet's veterinarian? \_\_\_\_\_ At which clinic? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your pet's behavior at the vet?  Scared/Nervous  Friendly  Aggressive

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Does your pet have allergies?  No  Yes

If yes, please list: \_\_\_\_\_

Does your pet have any medical/health conditions we should know about?  No  Yes

If yes, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

Does your pet need any medications?  No  Yes

If yes, please list: \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Pet and Children**

Has your pet lived with children?  No  Yes If yes, what ages? \_\_\_\_\_

Has your pet visited with children?  No  Yes If yes, what ages? \_\_\_\_\_ How often? \_\_\_\_\_

Is your pet good with children?  Yes, always  Only sometimes  No, never

Describe circumstances when your pet is not good with children (i.e. eating, sleeping, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

How does your pet generally behave around children?

Playful  Friendly  Tolerant

Afraid  Shy  Too rough  Hides  Aggressive

Any additional comments about your pet and children? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Your Pet and Other Animals**

What types of animals has your pet lived with (please include age, sex, species, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe how they got along: \_\_\_\_\_

Does (s)he spend unsupervised time with these pets?  Yes  No

Is your pet bonded with any other animals in your household?  No  Yes

If yes, who \_\_\_\_\_

What type of animals has your pet visited or played with? \_\_\_\_\_

How does (s)he behave around pets outside of your family?

Ignores  Plays  Bossy/Aggressive

Describe circumstances when your pet is not good with other animals (i.e. eating, attention given to other animal, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

**Section B: Specifics About Your Dog**

If pet is a cat, skip to Section C, or Section D for other animals.

Do you trust your dog loose indoors, unsupervised ?  Yes  No

If no, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you trust your dog loose outdoors, unsupervised?  Yes  No

If no, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

What type of confinement do you use when your dog is outside (fenced yard, runner, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_

Is your dog housetrained?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

How does your dog tell you (s)he needs to go out? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever used a crate for training your dog?  No  Yes If yes, why? \_\_\_\_\_

Has your dog ever seen horses or livestock?  No  Yes If yes, what was his/her reaction? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your dog's reaction to visitors at the door? \_\_\_\_\_

How long does it take him/her to calm down when someone comes to the house? \_\_\_\_\_

Has your dog ever nipped at anyone?  No  Yes If yes, who? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, under what circumstances? \_\_\_\_\_

Has (s)he ever bitten and drawn blood?  No  Yes If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever petted or approached your dog when (s)he is eating?  No  Yes If yes, what was the response? \_\_\_\_\_

Can you take toys or food out of your dog's mouth when (s)he has stolen something?  Yes  No

Who can safely do this? \_\_\_\_\_

Is your dog's behavior better or worse with certain people (i.e. people in uniforms, children, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_

Has your dog ever killed another animal?  No  Yes If yes, what species: \_\_\_\_\_

Does your dog chase any of the following (check all that apply):  Adults  Children

Cats

Squirrels  Bicycles  Cars  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Is your dog aggressively protective of his/her (check all that apply):  Food  Home

Car

Family  Bed  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe your dog's daily exercise: \_\_\_\_\_

What commands does your dog know? \_\_\_\_\_

How do you get him/her to respond (i.e. treats, praise, whistle, hand signals, voice, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_

How often do you bathe your dog? \_\_\_\_\_ Trim nails? \_\_\_\_\_ Take to groomer? \_\_\_\_\_

### Section C: Specifics About Your Cat

Does your cat use the litterbox?  Yes  No If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Does (s)he spray?  Yes  No Does your cat hunt?  Yes  No

Is your cat declawed?  No  Yes If yes, at what age? \_\_\_\_\_

Does your cat use a scratching post?  Yes  No If no, what does (s)he use? \_\_\_\_\_

If your cat lives primarily indoors, does (s)he ever go outside?  Yes  No

How long does it take your cat to adjust to new situations? \_\_\_\_\_

Where's your cat's favorite place to nap? \_\_\_\_\_

What qualities describe your cat (check all that apply)?  Shy  Friendly  Nervous

Social

Unsociable  Reserved  Independent  Affectionate  Playful

Energetic  Curious  Bites/claws playfully

How often do you bathe your cat? \_\_\_\_\_ Trim nails? \_\_\_\_\_ Take to groomer? \_\_\_\_\_

**Section D: Specifics About Your Rabbit, Bird, Rodent, Etc.**

Type of pet: \_\_\_\_\_

What kind of housing does your pet have (cage, aquarium, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_

What special needs does your pet have (diet, heat lamp, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What do you feed your pet (be specific – type of hay, veggies, fruits, nuts, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Does your pet need any special grooming?  No  Yes If yes, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Does (s)he drink water from a bottle or dish? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Does your pet like to be handled?  No  Yes If yes, what is the best way? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If your pet is a rabbit, does (s)he use a litterbox?  Yes  No

Where does (s)he primarily live?  Indoors  Outdoors