

Dear Adopter,

Congratulations on your decision to adopt a FVAR dog located in the state of South Carolina. We at FVAR will work with you to get the dog transported up to you as quickly and efficiently as possible. With that being said, I am going to try to answer many questions, comments, and concerns as well as explain how transportation works.

#### Health:

Once you have decided to adopt one of our fabulous dogs, we get the ball rolling on setting up transport. For a dog to go on transport, it needs to receive a health certificate from one of our veterinarians. At these visits, the veterinarian and their staff will go over the dog physically to make sure they are healthy for transport, as well as going over the dog's vaccination history to make sure they have the appropriate vaccinations. During this time, if the doctor finds a cause of concern or feels that the dog might not be 100% healthy, they will not be able to complete the health certificate. We at FVAR will make sure the dog has the health certificate available as close to transport time as possible so that the dog is less likely to develop any form of disease before transport. If your dog does not receive a health certificate, do not be alarmed! We at FVAR will do everything in our power to get the dog into a foster home and to rest and recover so that we can get them on the next available transport once they are healthy.

Transportation and the entire adoption period is a very stressful time for dogs. Imagine you were in a dorm or group house for a period of time, then picked up, examined, put on a van, and taken to a random place with random people. This would cause you a lot of stress, similar to what the dogs go through during an adoption. This stress can lower a dog's immune system, allowing diseases that are dormant to pop up after the dog starts to relax. A common flare up is an upper respiratory illness more commonly known as kennel cough. Kennel cough is very easy to treat and take care of, which is why we ask for our new adopters to have a new dog wellness appointment set up with your vet within the first two weeks of arrival. This allows for your vet to get acquainted with the dog, you to bring up any potential medical concerns, your dog to be set up with its monthly preventatives, and an additional fecal flotation to be run. Please remember that the first few days of having your new dog, you are going to want to make it easy on the dog. Let them rest and settle in before showing to all of your friends or taking them to meet all the new dogs, let them have a few days to settle in and get acquainted with you, you can use this time to start working on some foundation training and positive reinforcement, show the dog you are nice and love them!

#### Location:

Our transportation companies will try to find a central pickup location on their route that satisfies the pickup needs of our adopters. The companies will usually give 1-2 days advance notice of pickup time and location (please not pickup time and locations change every single week) Typically, the companies will go up to New England using I-95 or I-81. If your location is not located on or near that route, you might need to drive a further distance to the meeting site. Our adopters typically will not need to drive more than 2 hours to the pickup location BUT there are times where longer trips will be required. As well, as the transport companies drive straight through, the pickup time can vary from trip to trip. We have had adopters pick up at 2 AM and

adopters pick up at 2 PM. Please be aware that your pickup location could be at a very unusual time, but I assure you the companies will pick a safe and well lit area for any nighttime pickup.

Maine: Maine transports will typically arrive in Scarborough Maine in the early afternoon

Buffalo: Buffalo transports occur typically once a month, where the dogs will be transported directly to buffalo

What to Bring:

We ask our adopters to bring a leash and any device needed to transport the dog to the new household (crate, second person, harness, ect) to the pickup site. All FVAR dogs are sent with a brand new collar, a packet of their vet information, and a slip lead on transport. We HIGHLY encourage keeping the slip lead on the dog until it is safely secured in your household at the very minimum, but encourage a leash kept on the dog at all time for the first three weeks whenever having free access (Not in its crate) for training purposes.

If at any time you have any additional questions, please feel free to reach out to us or to your transport company after they contact you. We will do our best to accommodate needs. If we need to remove a dog from transport for any health reasons we will promptly do it as we want what is best for the dog and their health.

Thank you for adopting and remember, getting your new family member is an adventure, please treat it as one!

Thank you,  
Final Victory Animal Rescue