

Guidelines for fostering a litter

Quick Timeline:

- ✓ Arrival – email info to Johnnie and get them on the portal
- ✓ 1 Week – weight them daily
- ✓ 2 Weeks – deworm, continue weighing
- ✓ 3 Weeks – continue weighing, introduce goats milk mid-week
- ✓ 4 Weeks – deworm, start weaning process, introduce wet food
- ✓ 5 Weeks – continue weaning, introduce soggy kibble, switch to available status on the portal, prepare vet record sheet, set S/N appointments
- ✓ 6 Weeks – fully complete with weaning, deworm, first set of boosters: DHPPC and Bordatella
- ✓ 7 Weeks – continue solid kibble and separation from mom
- ✓ 10 weeks – DHPPC and Bordatella booster with LHS foster
- ✓ 16 weeks – DHPPC, microchip, Spay/Neuter, first dose of HW prev and rabies at vet

1. Always make sure to get all of the shelter paperwork for the expectant mom and or mom and her puppies. Scan and email paperwork to Johnnie Lee johnnielee@sbcglobal.net
2. Once you get everyone home, make sure to give mom and any pups a bath in regular Dawn dish soap. Make sure to apply a thick layer of Dawn, massage in well and leave on mom 10 minutes. In this situation, there is no such thing as “too much” Dawn. The Dawn will smother the fleas and kill them. After you bathe mom, make sure to bathe the pups with Dawn also – avoiding mouth, nose, and eyes. If there is no evidence of fleas on mom you can skip bathing the pups.
3. Make sure mom/pups have an area AWAY from other fosters/personal dogs. Moms are extremely protective of their pups and typically do not allow other dogs near them.
4. Moms need to have food at all times. High fat puppy food – which LHS provides. If your mom hasn't given birth yet, make sure to start feeding puppy food as soon as you get her home. She will continue to eat puppy food until the pups are weaned, then she can be transitioned to adult food.
5. It is common for new moms to have a lot of diarrhea. New moms will not (typically) want to go outside for the first 24 hours after birth. Do not try to force her to go outside before she is ready. You can supplement her food with pumpkin/rice/chicken to help her have more solid stools. If diarrhea lasts more than 2-3 days, get with your mentor as mom may need medicine.
6. It is ok to deworm expectant moms but we try to avoid giving any meds with pups in utero. If you notice worms in her stool while she is still pregnant, contact your mentor for safe deworming options.
7. If mom is not producing milk after giving birth, you can give her a calcium based food (milk, yogurt, cheese, goat's milk) to stimulate her milk production.
8. Puppies should be listed on portal as soon as they enter the program or as soon as they are born. If they are not old enough for adoption, put them in “Treatment” status. At 5 weeks of

age, move them to “Available” status to begin taking applications for pre-adoption. When working on their bios, make sure to indicate the following:

- Date of Birth
- Current weight
- Expected full grown weight (if you are unsure of this, get with your mentor to help with an estimate of this weight)
- Puppy can go home “on or after *** date”
- Need a home with the time and patience to take care of a baby
- All included vetting

Puppy care information

9. If the new litter are under 4 weeks of age, you need to weigh them every day (around the same time each day to ensure 24 hours has passed between weighing) and keep track of their weights.
10. Puppies should gain weight every day. If you have a pup or two not consistently gaining weight, make sure they are getting their turns on mom. If two days’ pass without weight gain, email your mentor for advice.
11. Puppies need to be dewormed **EVERY TWO WEEKS** beginning at two weeks of age.
12. **If your puppies are on any medication, this will be entered on their profile** under the “Private Notes section” located in the 3rd to section up from the bottom of their profile on the portal (manage.rescuegroups.org).
13. At 3.5 weeks, introduce goat’s milk/water mix (50/50 split) to puppies to help prepare them for food and to begin the weaning process. By this time, moms are usually starting to self wean. If you’ve stored any goat’s milk in the fridge, make sure to heat it up slightly before feeding to pups.
14. At 4 weeks mark, start mixing in Nutro Chicken, Rice, and Oatmeal canned food (your mentor will make sure you have some) with the goat’s milk mixture. You can start phasing out the goat’s milk at this time.
15. During the 4 week time period, make sure to only let mom nurse periodically. She can still sleep with the puppies at night but should generally be spending more time away from the puppies by this time.
16. At 5 weeks, you need to begin mixing the canned food with soggy kibble. Same brand food (Nutro Chicken, Rice, and Oatmeal for puppies). If you have large breed pups, you can use the Large Breed puppy formula. Soak kibble for approximately 10 minutes and the mix in with canned food. Begin phasing out the canned food during this week with the goal of puppies being on kibble by the beginning of the 6 weeks mark.

17. By 5 weeks, make sure that mom is not with the puppies unsupervised. Watch her milk sacks and only let her nurse in order to release the milk. This should be required less frequently with each day that passes.
18. At 6 weeks, the pups should be eating a mix of soggy kibble and hard kibble. Begin phasing out the soggy kibble during this week.
19. **PUPPIES NEED TO BE FULLY WEANED BY 6 WEEKS. Vaccinations are given one week following weaning (no later than 7 weeks). If the puppies are still nursing at 6 weeks, the vaccinations will be ineffective due to antibodies the puppies receive through mom's milk. Delaying the vaccinations puts the pups at risk of disease.**
20. Puppies receive vaccinations at 7, 10, and 16 weeks. The 7 & 10 week vaccinations will be given by a LHS volunteer. At 16 weeks, they will go to one of our approved vets.

7 weeks	10 weeks	16 weeks
DHPPCL	DHPPCL	DHPPCL
Bordatella	Bordatella	Rabies vaccination
		Spay/Neuter
		Microchipping
		First month's dose of heartworm prevention

21. When boosters are done, enter the dates and what was done on the puppies profile under the "Private Notes section" located in the 3rd to section up from the bottom of their profile on the portal (manage.rescuegroups.org).

Adoption information

22. Puppies can physically go to their homes at 7 weeks of age. If they are adopted before they are able to leave the nest, a \$125 non-refundable deposit must be paid via cash, check or credit card/paypal to hold the puppy for their family. The adoption contract and S/N contract will also need to be signed at this time.
23. When the pups go to their new families, the \$125 balance is due.
24. Make sure the adopter's receive the puppy's vaccination record before they leave with the puppy. If they do not have this when they go to the 16 week appointment, they will be turned away. An example of vaccination record at end of this manual.
25. When the puppy is adopted, make **sure the adopter signs the contract and spay/neuter contract**. Also, stress to adopter that the **appointments are already set and cannot be changed**. Before the puppies leave your house, make sure to email the adopter what food they are eating to make their transition easier. Additionally, you can provide your adopters the following links:

- http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/dogs/tips/crate_training.html
- <http://www.examiner.com/article/pets-101-tips-for-comforting-a-crated-crying-puppy>

- <http://pets.webmd.com/dogs/guide/biting-puppy-how-train-puppy-bites>

26. When your puppy gets adopted forward the adopters application via email molly@LegacyHumaneSociety.org, Annmirishlhs@gmail.com and your mentor. Please be sure the adopted email includes the following: adopters name, the puppies name(s), phone, email, address and amount given for the adoption fee, and how it was paid. Note that if they chose to use Paypal, there is a 3% convenience charge added to the total amount due (i.e. if it's \$250, they need to pay \$257.50).
27. Move the puppy to adopted on the portal by selecting the adopted option on their profile then enter the adopters name in the internal ID field.
28. Mail check and contract to Ann Irish at: 3405 Pecan Meadows Dr Flower Mound, TX 75028
29. Please make sure to print out the following information sheet and give to adopter.

Foster's name:

Foster's email address:

****Do not take your new puppy out in public, he/she is not fully up-to-date on their vaccinations; therefore, they are extremely susceptible to illnesses carried by other dogs. You can take them to family & friends houses – as long as you know their dogs are up-to-date on their vaccines.**

****Pay special attention to the dates on the vaccination and vet record sheet I am giving you. Your new puppy absolutely HAS TO FOLLOW these dates, they are not negotiable. Your adoption fee includes three sets of vaccinations, their rabies, microchip, HW prevention and spay/neuter. The last set of vaccinations, rabies and S/N needs to be done at the vet listed on your vaccination record (see the directions sheet I have included for you).**

VACCINATIONS:

If your puppy has not had his/her 2nd set of vaccinations, it needs to be done on the week that is listed as the due date, but no sooner. For instance, if the vaccination sheet says they are due for their DHPPC on 1/13/2017, the vaccination cannot be done any sooner than the 13th, but can be done as late as 5 days after the due date.

When your puppy is due for boosters contact the email listed on the medical records sheet to schedule them accordingly: Molly Peterson at mrtpeterson@yahoo.com.

Worms:

It is common for puppies to have at least one of the following types of worms: round (look like spaghetti), tape (flat and resemble rice when they dry) or hook (not usually visible in feces but their effects appear in the form of blood spots/streams). They are only transferable to humans or other pets by consuming the infected feces. If you notice any of these, please email your foster to arrange treatment.

****Your new puppy has not been without his/her litter mates, so it will be natural for them to be a “lonely” – put them in a small/enclosed area, if possible drape a sheet or towel over their crate or kennel – that should help the puppy feel more secure. Visit the Helpful Info page on our website www.LegacyHumaneSociety.org for resources related to crate training, over the counter medication suggestions and other helpful resources.**

**** After your puppy has received his/her rabies vaccination, take the certificate to your city shelter/offices to register your puppy. Registered dogs are more likely to be returned to the owner in the event they escape or are lost. Put the odds in the dogs favor and register your pets. Also, at the time of their spay/neuter, you will receive information on their microchip. Please make sure to register your new puppy's microchip!**

Heartworm Prevention:

Take the vaccination sheet to your vet (if you chose not to purchase heartworm protection from our vet on the date of your puppy's surgery) before the below date to purchase Heartworm prevention. Or, it can be purchased at the time of the puppy's alteration appointment.

Next dose of Heartworm prevention due: _____

Most importantly, enjoy and love your new family member! If you ever have any questions, please contact me!



Records for Powder				
DOB: 11/26/2015		Sex: Male		Breed: Lab mix
Vet Record	CCHS COVERED	Next Due Date	Type/Results	Done
HW testing	N/A	3/17/17	----	N/A
DHPPC	1/14/16	2/4/16	Vacc	<Place sticker here>
DHPPC	2/4/16	3/17/16	Vacc	<Place stickers here>
DHPPC	3/17/16	3/17/17	Vacc	Stonebridge
Rabies (1yr)	3/17/16	3/17/17	Vacc	Stonebridge
Bordetella	1/14/16	2/4/16	Vacc	<Place sticker here>
Bordetella	2/4/16	8/4/16	Vacc	<Place stickers here>
NEUTER	3/17/16	N/A	Surgery	Stonebridge
Microchip	3/17/16	N/A	AVID	Stonebridge
Iverhart	3/17/16	1 st of the month	HW Prev	Stonebridge

The dates are not adjustable unless the puppy is sick and it is therefore inhumane to perform surgery. Please bring this sheet to the vet for their scheduled spay/neuter appointment. No food or water after midnight the night before surgery. This is your permission slip and also lets you know what they are due for. Drop off is 7:30-8:00am and pick up is 3:00-5:00pm. Address of Stonebridge Animal Hospital is 5913 Virginia Pkwy, McKinney. The appointment is already scheduled. All you need to do is show up, sign in and give them this sheet as your letter of authorization. Your puppy will receive Spay/Neuter, DHPPC, and rabies. These are the only services provided by LHS. If you elect to do anything additional, you can pay for those charges separately. You can expect the girls to be groggy for 24-48 hours accompanied by vomiting. If the vomiting persists past 48 hours call Molly at 214-240-9292 to arrange for the puppy to see a vet. The boys will bounce back that night at the latest.

