

Admissions Policy Ohio House Rabbit Rescue, Inc.

Ohio House Rabbit Rescue, Inc. is a restricted admissions organization. If space is available, Ohio House Rabbit Rescue will accept rabbits that have been rescued by Ohio House Rabbit Rescue staff or volunteers and rabbits rescued and then surrendered by a Good Samaritan. A very limited space will be dedicated to rabbits surrendered by their owners. If it is determined that Ohio House Rabbit Rescue does not have the space to admit the rabbit, then Ohio House Rabbit Rescue will offer a list of other organizations, with contact information that may accept the rabbit.

Once Ohio House Rabbit Rescue accepts the rabbit for admission, the owner or Good Samaritan must complete a surrender/relinquishment form. The rabbit then becomes the responsibility of Ohio House Rabbit Rescue and he/she will be assessed to determine behavior and health status.

The rabbit's behavior will be assessed by an Ohio House Rabbit Rescue Board member or staff to determine whether the rabbit is exhibiting aggressive behavior and/or may create a safety risk to people or other animals. The rabbit will be assessed medically with a wellness exam performed by a rabbit-experienced veterinarian.

If the rabbit is cleared behaviorally and medically, the rabbit will be spayed or neutered. The rabbit will then be placed in a foster home during the recovery period. The rabbit will be available for adoption after a 2-week recovery period. For an experienced fosterer, the rabbit may be placed in the foster home before the medical assessment and subsequent surgery.

If the rabbit is diagnosed with a treatable medical condition, the rabbit will be treated at the veterinarian's recommendation for an agreed upon period of time. At the end of that period, the rabbit's condition will be reassessed by a veterinarian to determine further treatment or another course of action based on the veterinarian's recommendation. If the medical condition is worse or untreatable or if the rabbit is suffering, the outcome will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis for possible euthanasia.

If the initial wellness examination reveals that the rabbit is determined to be suffering from pain with no treatment options, euthanasia will be considered.

Ohio House Rabbit Rescue, Inc. is committed to the preservation of life and to the objective use of approved methods of euthanasia, when appropriate, guided by medical standards and a reasonable interpretation of the definition of the purpose behind euthanasia. Factors contributing to the euthanasia of any rabbit include an untreatable condition, a contagious disease, experiencing pain and suffering, or a health or safety risk to people or other animals. The Board of Directors will discuss each matter on a case-by-case basis with input from the veterinarian treating the rabbit. If the rabbit is being housed in a foster home, the fosterer's input will be considered before a decision to euthanize is finalized. If the fosterer is willing to adopt the rabbit, he/she assumes financial responsibility for the rabbit.

All questions and inquiries may be directed to:
contact@ohiohouserabbitrescue.org