



# Adoption Holds

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## How does the hold process work?

In order to enhance our adoption process and make Animal Care of Davis County even better at saving the lives of dogs, cats, and other adoptable pets, members of the public are now able to place a hold on any available animal in the shelter for a \$10 non-refundable fee, regardless of their stray-wait status!

### **Stray-wait Hold:** *A hold placed on an animal prior to completing their mandated stray-wait period*

Animals that come into our facility as strays typically become the custody of Animal Care of Davis County at close of business on the last day of the pet's state-mandated stray-wait period of five business days. We're now allowing placement of pre-adoptive holds on stray animals to expedite the process of getting them out of the stressful shelter environment and into a loving home as soon as possible should no owner claim them.

Please note that when you place an adoption hold on an animal on stray-wait, although you've confirmed your adoption, there is always the possibility that the animal may still be reclaimed by its owner which naturally voids the adoption. In this event, you'll receive a phone call notifying you that the animal was reunited and is no longer available to adopt.

If the pet is found to have a microchip or other identification, or if we've identified a possible owner, the stray-wait period for the pet may be extended and you'll be notified that your adoption may be postponed. In this case, you'll become the legal owner only after the adoption process is finalized at the end of your adoption appointment.

### **Convenience Hold:** *A hold placed on any adoptable animal after the stray-wait period has expired (24 hour maximum)*

A convenience hold will allow time for you to have additional family members meet your prospective pet, let you run to the pet store to stock up on supplies, or just generally prepare for their homecoming! If your adoption is not completed before the 24 hour convenience hold expires, the pet will go back up for adoption by the general public.

### **Hold Process:**

- We accept holds on any animal that doesn't already have a pre-existing hold (due to confiscation, quarantine, medical, etc.).
- We charge a \$10 non-refundable fee upon each hold request. A hold can be accepted over the phone, and in that case, payment can be made by credit card.
- The person requesting the hold will complete an online adoption application, or be given one to fill out if they're present at the shelter, in order to help the Adoption Team ensure the animal is a right fit for their home.
- Holds placed on adoptable pets (including those that have completed their stray-wait period) will not exceed 24 hours. For example, if a person placed a hold on an adoptable animal at 4:00 PM on Tuesday, that hold would expire at 4:00 PM on the following Wednesday.
- Holds placed on animals still on stray-wait will last until the expiration of its stray-wait period, plus one (1) business day. For example, if a person placed a hold on an animal whose stray-wait period ends on Tuesday morning, the adoption must be completed within business hours on the following Wednesday.
- Once a hold is requested and payment is made, the requester will receive a Hold Card. This card will note the date and time that the animal's adoption must be completed.