

GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING, INC.

ADOPTION APPLICATION

(PLEASE READ and KEEP the following page for your reference)

Thank you for inquiring about our Goldens available for adoption. GRREAT is an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, active in Maryland, the District of Columbia, Northern Virginia, Delaware and parts of Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Our goals are to educate the public about responsible dog ownership, particularly with Golden Retrievers, and to place homeless Goldens into new, loving homes. Please note that we do not adopt outside of our service area.

DOG AVAILABILITY

The majority of our "orphans" were turned over to us by their owners; the rest come from cooperating shelters. As a rule they make wonderful pets and adjust well to their new families. Our dogs are first placed into foster homes where we are able to evaluate the dog's temperament and activity level in an attempt to determine the type of lifestyle and family the dog will complement. We suggest you look for a dog that matches your lifestyle and has the personality characteristics you desire, rather than limit yourself to a particular gender or age. ***The broader range you consider, the faster you will find a wonderful dog.*** We usually have about 15 dogs of all ages available for adoption, but we seldom get puppies under 6 months. Goldens are large (60 to 90 lbs.) active dogs who often display puppy-like behavior until 3 or more years old. We recommend an adult house trained dog for working couples or families with small children, since they adapt to family situations much more quickly.

SPAY/NEUTER/MICROCHIP

All dogs adopted from GRREAT are spayed or neutered and should be microchipped. If not microchipped prior to adoption, the new family must make arrangements to bring the dog to an adoption day within three months to have this done. ***The adoption will not be considered final until this requirement is met.*** All dogs are current on vaccinations, have had fecal and heartworm tests and are on heartworm preventative. We require a minimum donation at the time of adoption to help offset our expenses, which currently average in excess of \$600 for each dog we rescue. Minimum donations are based upon the age of the dog:

Less than 4 years - \$400. 4 through 7 years of age - \$350. 8 years and older - \$225.

APPLICATION

Please complete the enclosed application so we can get to know you, your family and your lifestyle. All adults in your household **MUST** sign the application, and it must be completed in full to be evaluated. We require original signatures so please do NOT send the application electronically. We require a home visit, which will be helpful in determining the compatibility of the type of dog you have requested with your lifestyle, so a volunteer will contact you to arrange an appointment. **The non-refundable application fee is \$25 and will be put towards veterinary care for our Rescued Goldens.** If your application is approved your name will be placed on our mailing list for available dogs, and you will begin receiving dog listings and adoption opportunity notices. Your application will remain active for 6 months and can be re-activated (at 6 month intervals) for up to two years from the date of original submission. After this time, a new application must be submitted.

NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABLE DOGS

Available dog lists are emailed each month (typically 2 weeks after each Adoption Day), and include basic information about each dog as well as the name and contact information of the foster care provider. When you inquire about a dog, the foster home may conduct a telephone interview, and if you BOTH agree, a time may be scheduled for you to meet and discuss the dog in more detail. The final adoption decision is made by the foster home, based on GRREAT's guidelines and their assessment of the needs of the dog in question. Our goal is to place

each dog in a home where the dog and new family will complement each other. *Dogs are placed with the home that best meets the dog's needs, NOT on a "first come, first served" basis.*

Additionally, we host a Golden Retriever Adoption Day on the first or second Saturday of each month where we arrange to bring multiple dogs to a central location and invite pre-approved applicants and the public to attend. *Only pre-approved applicants are eligible to adopt at these events*, but applications, which will be evaluated at a later time, may be submitted. Adoption days offer a good opportunity to see dogs of different gender, age, color and temperament. You will be notified of these events as they are scheduled, or you may visit our web site at www.GRREAT.org and check the Calendar page.

Some dogs require specific circumstances and the needs of each individual dog are evaluated. A fence may be required for young, active dogs or dogs who have had little or no obedience training or a tendency to roam. These dogs may need a safe, enclosed area for proper exercise and safe release of youthful energy.

REQUIREMENT FOR FORMALIZED TRAINING

We may require some dogs to attend a formalized obedience class within 4 weeks of the adoption date. At the time of adoption we will request a \$50.00 obedience course deposit. At completion of the obedience course, please send your Certificate of Completion to GRREAT, PO Box 190, Merrifield, VA 22116. You can choose to request a refund be mailed to you, or you can donate the deposit to GRREAT and receive a donation acknowledgment letter. A good obedience course could ensure the success of your adoption experience.

PURCHASING A PUPPY

The health and temperament of Golden Retrievers have suffered because of indiscriminate and irresponsible breeding practices, so if you decide to purchase a puppy, we encourage you to research the breeders and avoid the pitfalls and dangers of backyard breeders and the puppy mills that flourish in Pennsylvania and other areas. Although GRREAT does not have a breeder referral service, we will be happy to send you a breeder evaluation questionnaire and breeder referral sources in your area or you can visit our website, www.GRREAT.org, for more information.

Owning a dog is a big responsibility, one that you should be prepared to honor for the life of your dog. Careful consideration and planning should go into choosing the correct dog for you and your lifestyle. GRREAT successfully places about 250 dogs each year, but it is difficult, if not impossible, to estimate how long it will take for you to find "just the right Golden". Many variables are involved, including availability of foster homes and the number of dogs in need. The more flexible you are to gender and age the more likely you are to quickly find the right dog for you. Please remember, our primary consideration is for the welfare of our dogs.

PLEASE ALLOW US 4 TO 5 WEEKS TO PROCESS YOUR APPLICATION

PLEASE CHOOSE THE APPROPRIATE ADDRESS:

MD/PA/DE RETURN YOUR APPLICATION TO:
Chuck Johnson
605 Old Herald Harbor Rd
Crownsville, MD 21032-1401

VA/DC/WV RETURN YOUR APPLICATION TO:
Robin Heinecke
107 Holden Farm Ln
Queenstown, MD 21658

For more information on GRREAT and its activities,
or to volunteer your time, call our voice mail or
visit our home page at <http://www.grreat.org>

GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING, INC
P.O. Box 190, Merrifield, VA 22116 ~ 703-620-6593

GRREAT GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE, EDUCATION, AND TRAINING INC. ADOPTION APPLICATION

A successful adoption depends on selecting the right Golden for your household and a good understanding of the dog's needs and care requirements. Please help us with this process by answering the following questions fully & completely. THANK YOU!

Applicant (must be 18 or older)	Co-Applicant (must be 18 or older)
Name: _____ Age _____	Name: _____ Age _____
Occupation: _____ Phone _____	Occupation: _____ Phone: _____
Street Address: _____	Relationship to Applicant: _____
City: _____ State: _____	Zip Code: ___/___/___/___ + ___/___/___/___
Home Phone: _____	
Primary Email: _____	Secondary Email: _____

How many adults live in your household, **other than the applicant and co-applicant**: Please list them and their ages:

How many children live in your household: _____ And their ages: _____

Are you a Previous GRREAT Adopter? If yes: _____
Name(s) and ID#(s) of your adopted dog(s)

1. Reasons for Adoption (check all that apply):

Family Companion
 Gift
 Personal Protection
 For Child
 Playmate for Current Dog
 Miss Previous Dog
 To provide a loving and safe home to a Golden-in-need
 Other: _____

2. Considerations: (please indicate which of the following characteristics **you would be willing to consider** in a new Forever Friend)

Please keep the following in mind ****The more stringent your preferences, the longer you may wait. ****Goldens are typically high energy through middle age – there is no such thing as a 2 yr or younger couch potato. ****You must be absent from home no more than 4 hrs at a time to be considered for a puppy. ****Most of our dogs come with a certain amount of baggage, please consider the issues you would be willing to help these dogs through so that they can reach their full and wonderful Golden potential – remember that GRREAT is available to provide education and guidance to help you.

Gender: ___ Male ___ Female **Age:** ___ under 1 ___ 1 ___ 2 ___ 3 ___ 4 ___ 5 ___ 6 ___ 7 ___ over 7

Energy Level: ___ Extremely Active ___ High ___ Medium ___ Low ___ Couch Potato

I/We have the willingness to consider a dog with:

- ___ slight behavioral issues (e.g., housebreaking, general obedience)
- ___ med. behavioral issues (e.g., slight separation anxiety, some fear issues, some mouthy/nipping behaviors – non aggressive)
- ___ stronger behavioral issues (e.g., alpha tendencies, severe separation anxiety, some guarding issues)

I/We have the resources and willingness to consider a dog with:

- ___ slight medical issues (e.g., those controlled with diet/supplements/exercise)
- ___ med. medical issues (e.g., those controlled with meds/modification– like thyroid, Lymes, tri-pod, aging issues)
- ___ stronger medical issues (e.g., those requiring possible surgery or recovery/maintenance therapies like swimming or acupuncture)

I/We will consider adopting:

- ___ a pair that should not be separated ___ a dog that must be an only pet ___ a dog that needs a canine companion
- ___ a Golden mix

3. Type of Residence (check):

House Townhouse Duplex Apartment Condo Mobile Home With Parents

Do you own: _____ Or rent: _____

ATTENTION RENTERS OR CONDO OWNERS: A COPY OF YOUR HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT OR YOUR LEASE, OR A NOTARIZED STATEMENT FROM YOUR LANDLORD/ASSOCIATION CONFIRMING THAT A LARGE DOG IS PERMITTED MUST BE ATTACHED OR THE APPLICATION CANNOT BE PROCESSED

Please provide the name and phone number of your landlord:

Landlord name: _____ Phone: _____

4. Do you have a fenced yard: Yes No If no, do you intend to fence, when and what type _____

If yes, what type of fence: Chainlink Privacy Split rail with wire mesh Electronic

Other _____

Height of Fence at lowest point _____ Approx. fenced area _____

If no, how will you exercise the dog and arrange for toilet duties. Who will supervise: _____

5. Will the dog ever be tied or left outside when you are not home: Yes No

Under what circumstances:

6. Do you currently have any of the following (check all that apply):

Dog Door Outdoor Kennel Run Tieout Stake Overhead Cable Runner Dog House

7. Where will the dog stay while you are at work or out of the house? (check all that apply):

Basement Laundry Garage Dog run Free in home Kitchen Yard

Other: _____

8. Where will this pet sleep at night: _____

9. Number of hours dog will be alone each day: _____ Is someone available to come home mid-day? Usually Sometimes No

Is anyone home during the day: Yes No

Please list who and the amount of time: _____

10. Please list all household members and the level of their responsibilities in regard to caring for a new dog:

11. Do ALL household members want a new dog and are they willing to make a lifetime commitment: _____

12. Please describe your idea of a typical week day and week-end day in the pet's life:

13. Does anyone in your household have allergies to dogs or asthma: Yes____ No____

How is this controlled:_____

14. Where will the dog stay when you travel or take vacation: _____

Do you travel regularly: Yes____ No____ If yes, how often:_____

15. If you have to move, what will you do with this dog:_____

16. Are you prepared to provide for the dog for the next 10 or more years: Yes____ No____

17. Typical care for a healthy Golden can range from \$500 to \$1000 per year. Will you be able to budget at least this amount? _____
(This includes vet care, shots, heartworm preventative, quality dog food, toys, misc equipment, boarding/kennel fees, grooming, supplies, etc.)

18. What brand of dog food do you currently use or plan on using for this dog:_____

19. Would you be willing to attend a formal obedience class if required: Yes _____ No _____

20. Have you ever crated a dog: Yes____ No____ Are you willing to do so now: Yes____ No____

If you prefer not to crate, why:_____

21. Please list all pets that have **resided in your home** in the last 10 years:

TYPE/BREED	GENDER	AGE	SPAYED or NEUTERED	WHERE IS PET NOW (PLEASE EXPLAIN)
	Male / Female		Yes / No	
	Male / Female		Yes / No	
	Male / Female		Yes / No	
	Male / Female		Yes / No	

22. Is there any additional information you would like us to know about these pets:

23. Has a dog ever been stolen, lost or die prematurely: Yes____ No____ Please explain:

24. Has it ever been necessary to sell or give a pet away: Yes____ No____ Please explain:

25. Have you ever surrendered a dog to a shelter: Yes____ No____ Please explain:

26. Please provide the name & phone number for two personal references (other than relatives):

1. _____ Phone_____

2. _____ Phone_____

27. If you currently have a pet, or have owned a pet in the past, please provide the name and phone number for your veterinarian:

1. _____ Phone_____

**A GRREAT REPRESENTATIVE WILL CONTACT THE ABOVE REFERENCES,
PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR VET AND AUTHORIZE THEM TO RELEASE INFORMATION.**

28. How did you hear about GRREAT: (Please check all that apply)

___ GRREAT website ___ GRREAT event ___ Veterinarian ___ Shelter ___ Dog Event ___ Ad ___ TV ___ Other _____

29. Have you ever applied to a shelter or rescue organization for adoption of a dog: Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please supply the name and location of the shelter or rescue, the date applied, and the result of your application:

30. What are the best times and days of the week to contact you: _____

31. Is there any additional information that you would like us to know (please use the back if more space is needed) :

____ (Initial) I/We acknowledge that all information provided on this form is true and correct. I understand that any misrepresentations of fact may result in my not being approved and/or removal by GRREAT of the adopted dog from my possession.

____ (Initial) I/We certify that any information transmitted to GRREAT by e-mail or any other means to supplement or to reactivate this application will be true and correct. I/We understand that any misrepresentations of fact in those materials may result in my/our application being rejected and/or the removal by GRREAT of the adopted dog from my possession after the discovery of the misrepresentation by GRREAT.

____ (Initial) I/We certify that I have never been convicted of animal cruelty or neglect.

**YOU MUST BE 18 YEARS OR OLDER TO SIGN THIS APPLICATION.
ORIGINAL SIGNATURES ARE REQUIRED TO PROCESS THIS APPLICATION.**

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE _____ Date _____

CO-APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE _____ Date _____

ALL OTHER ADULTS IN HOUSEHOLD MUST ALSO SIGN THIS APPLICATION:

Thank you for your \$25 Application Fee which will be used to help Rescued Golden Retrievers get needed veterinary care. I understand that this fee is non-refundable regardless of the outcome of this application.

Check here if you would like to receive a packet of useful information about Golden Retrievers.

I have enclosed a stamped, self-addressed business size envelope for notification of application decision.

PLEASE CHOOSE THE APPROPRIATE ADDRESS:

MD/PA/DE RETURN YOUR APPLICATION TO:

Chuck Johnson
605 Old Herald Harbor Rd
Crownsville, MD 21032-1401

VA/DC/WV RETURN YOUR APPLICATION TO:

Robin Heinecke
107 Holden Farm Ln
Queenstown, MD 21658

The application approval process may take between 4 to 5 weeks and will include a home evaluation. We are an all-volunteer organization so please be patient as we are often overwhelmed with the number of Golden Retrievers who want to adopt from us. We will contact you as soon as our schedules permit. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Adoption Coordinator through our website, www.GRREAT.org.

**GRREAT reserves the right to reject any application based on information obtained during the approval process. Please understand that our primary goal is the FOREVER health, happiness, and safety of our Rescued dogs. Thank you.

ADOPAPP 09/11