

DogtoberFEST 2021 Guidelines

Welcome to DogtoberFEST 2021, sponsored by Pittsburgh PetConnections Magazine to benefit CARMAA (Coalition to Adopt, Rehome and Match Abandoned Animals). Thank you for choosing to join us for this “celebration of adoption” event in Pittsburgh. The event will take place on Saturday, October 2th from 11am-4pm at the Waterfront in Homestead.

General information:

No dog adoptions can take place on site due to PA law. You may take applications and hold meet & greets, but please follow your normal adoption procedure to finalize the adoption. Cats, small animals and reptiles are exempt from this restriction, but CARMAA strongly suggests the event have a focus on education and proper care of animals.

A donation can be permitted for each organization, but if you wish to sell merchandise you **MUST** purchase a **VENDOR BADGE** for \$50 when registering.

Food and drink will be available onsite through the PetConnections kitchen.

Check in for shelters/rescues/vendors starts at 8:45. We **CANNOT** allow anyone in before then as the tent company will be setting up tables and the staging area. We will provide a detailed map with assigned spaces, parking and directions to the registration table the week before the event.

Please pull up to your assigned spot & unload, then move your car before setting up to allow all participants to drive through as easily as possible. Volunteers will be on hand to help show you where your spot is.

The public is invited to bring their dogs, so please keep that in mind when choosing which animals to bring and how you set up your space.

Animal Information

Collars and leashes must be provided for all dogs. Some public water bowls will be available, and it's suggested that groups should also bring their own bowls and food/treats. There will be a water buffalo provided by the Waterfront.

A designated potty area is available for dogs, and indoor bathroom are available for people. Both will be highlighted on your map, sent the week before the event.

Dogs must be on leash and under control at all times. People-aggressive and extremely dog-dog aggressive animals are not invited to participate at DogtoberFEST.

DogtoberFEST supports and promotes positive dog training methods. Negative training techniques, electric collars, prong collars and choke chains are not allowed at DogtoberFEST. Please note that we have no control over how the public handles their dogs but will try to educate on the benefits of positive training and handling techniques on the day of the event.

All dogs are encouraged to be spayed and neutered if attending the event, and must be over the age of eight weeks. All dogs must have at least one set of vaccinations, preferably given at least one week before the event. DHLPP is required for all and rabies is required for all dogs over the age of 16 weeks.

Please make every effort to screen the dogs for any disease, particularly for anything communicable. If a dog is ill, please do not bring him or her to the event.

Volunteers walking dogs should be sure to utilize the designated potty break areas and thoroughly clean up after their animal. If a dog cannot hold it until they get to the potty area, please make sure to clean up appropriately.

Anyone who is abusive to the public, other participants, or any animal will be asked to leave the event immediately.