# WSDA

## WHAT TO KNOW WHEN **RESCUING A PET** IN WASHINGTON STATE

### RULES FOR ADOPTING PETS FROM OUT OF STATE

Washington

State Department of

Agriculture

- Travel and vaccination documents are required, including a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection or similar.
- Proof of current rabies vaccination are also required, except for dogs and cats younger than 3 months they do not need rabies vaccinations.
- Dogs and cats from areas under quarantine for rabies are prohibited.
- Dogs 6 months and older must test negative for heartworm.
- Cats need a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, but do not require heartworm testing.



#### **RABIES VACCINATION MUST BE CURRENT**

Make sure the certificate is complete and valid. Rabies certificates should include:

- Date of rabies vaccination.
- Expiration date of vaccine.
- Veterinarian's signature.
- Pet's description, including breed, sex, age, color, and markings.



#### **BEWARE OF FORGERIES**

- Be sure documents list where the animal is coming from and where it is going.
- Check documents for the veterinarian's name, signature, and National Accreditation Number.
- Research pet rescue organizations to verify they have an operation permit if required.
- Penalties of up to \$1,000 can be assessed for forged documents or transporting animals into Washington without valid paperwork.



Visit www.agr.wa.gov/foodanimal/animalhealth to contact us or find out more about WSDA import requirements.