

# E.A.R.S.



## Erie Area Rabbit Society & Rescue

(814)838-9732

Please email for to [eriearearabbitsocietyandrescue@gmail.com](mailto:eriearearabbitsocietyandrescue@gmail.com) or mail to  
2316 W. 38<sup>th</sup> Street, Erie, PA 16506

### Rabbit Adoption Contract

E.A.R.S. reserves the right to refuse any adoption.

E.A.R.S. also may require you to come in and volunteer  
prior to the adoption being approved.

Please answer each question carefully and with as much detail as possible.

Rabbit's Name:

Sex:

Age:

Breed:

Color Description:

**In assuming responsibility for the above rabbit, I agree to never physically abuse him/her, nor will I allow any other person or animal to do so. I will always supervise any children when they are playing with this rabbit. I agree to give the rabbit play and exercise time in a safe environment. I agree to bunny-proof my home. I am adopting the rabbit as a HOUSE pet, and at no time will s/he be left outside overnight. I will supervise any daytime, outdoor, play activity and provide protection from predators. I will monitor the outdoor temperature closely if over 80 or under 50 the rabbit will not be allowed out.**

**I agree that this animal will not be bred. In the case of a juvenile rabbit, I agree that I will have the rabbit neutered/spayed by the age of six months at a veterinarian recommended by E.A.R.S. Once the operation has been performed, I will send a veterinary certificate to E.A.R.S. I will also separate any unneutered pairs of mixed sexes when they approach sexual maturity (3 months), until at least one is neutered.**

**Once this rabbit is adopted, E.A.R.S. is not liable or responsible for any damage or injury caused by the adopted rabbit. I understand that E.A.R.S. does not know of any health problem this rabbit may have other than those that have been disclosed to me. I understand that health problems may arise in the future for which E.A.R.S. or its representatives will not be responsible.**

**I agree that E.A.R.S. is authorized to remove this animal if s/he is not receiving adequate home care, or is being endangered by lack of veterinary care, or if there has been a violation of the adoption agreement or any local anti-cruelty laws.**

**If I am unable to maintain this agreement, for any reason, I will return this animal to E.A.R.S. in accordance with policy. I will notify the E.A.R.S. when this animal dies. I have read this agreement and will abide by its terms.**

**I am also aware the adoption fee is non-refundable.**

**I agree to provide this rabbit with a balanced diet of daily fresh food, (pellets, hay, and approved vegetables) and fresh water. I also agree to provide medical care to always keep this rabbit in good health.**

**I will allow a member of E.A.R.S. to do a home visit before/after adoption.**

**I understand that a rabbit may live 10 to 12 years and is a long-term commitment**

**Signature:**

**Date:**

**Printed Name:**

**Age:**

**Phone:**

**Alternate Phone:**

**Address:**

**City/State/Zip:**

**Email:**

**Occupation:**

**1) Have you had rabbits in the past? If yes, how many, what sex and where were the rabbits kept? What happened to those rabbits?**

**2) Do you have a rabbit now? How many? What are their names and ages? Are they spayed/neutered? Do they have any medical conditions?**

**3) Is this bunny intended to be a companion for another family rabbit?**

**4) Please describe what your rabbit's diet will be:**

**5) Do you *have* or *plan on getting* any other animals? If yes, what kind?**

**6) How many children live in your household? What are their ages?  
How many adults live in your household?**

**7)** Which member of your household will be the primary caregiver for the rabbits?

**8)** Have you done any research on what it takes to care for a rabbit? If yes, where?

**9)** Have you contacted other rabbit rescue groups or shelters? If so, which ones?

**10)** Does any member of your family have any allergies to animals or hay?

**11)** Do you own your own house or rent an apartment? For how long?  
(sometimes apartments will not allow rabbits as pets.)

**12)** Name and phone number of Landlord if you rent.

**13)** Is your home bunny-proofed? (Electric cords are covered, there are no chemicals on the floors, toxic plants have been removed from the rabbit's living and play areas, have plenty of cardboard, etc.)

**14)** Are you aware that rabbits like to chew and may want to chew the carpet or furniture? (Don't hit or strike them! We can help with ways to prevent this from happening.)  
Is there any behavior you cannot accept in a rabbit?

**15)** What type of enclosure are you planning to use for the rabbits and where will they live?

**16)** Describe the ways you plan to allow your rabbits to exercise, number of hours, space, etc.

**17)** If you go away on vacation, who will take care of the rabbits? (E.A.R.S. offers boarding to their adoption families at a very reasonable rate.)

**18)** What is your veterinarian's name, phone number and address?  
(If you don't have one, we can provide a list of approved rabbit vets)

**19)** Do you currently have any other pets? Please describe type, breed, age, sex, and whether spayed or neutered (include all animals in household including roommate's pets). How long have you had these pets? Where are other pets kept during the day and where at night?

**20)** What would you do if/when your rabbit(s) require extensive veterinary care (e.g., surgery) costing in excess of \$1000 at one time or over several years? We recommend having a \$500 emergency animal fund.

**21)** What would you do with the rabbits in the following situations? (We request you contact us if for ANY reason you find yourself in a situation where you can no longer keep the bunny.)

- your apartment no longer allows pets
- your (new) roommate is allergic to rabbits
- your (new) significant other is allergic to rabbits
- you and your significant other separate

**22)** All adoptions have a free consultation with one of our knowledgeable board members at your home. Do we have permission to visit your home?

**23)** Are you interested in doing volunteer work?

(If you are not able to adopt, are you interested in sponsoring one bunny at least to be neutered or spayed?)

Note: Please e-mail this form to: [eriearearabbitsocietyandrescue@gmail.com](mailto:eriearearabbitsocietyandrescue@gmail.com).

**24)** What made you interested in adopting a rabbit as a pet?

Are there any questions that you would like us to answer:

Before you adopt you will need:

- An exercise pen or large/x-large dog crate
- Timothy hay and oxbow pellets
- Ceramic food and water bowls

Signature:

Date:

Thank you for taking the time to complete this adoption application. Applicants who are approved for adoption will be contacted.

## ADOPTION POLICIES

**1) Primary Caregiver.** When a rabbit is adopted from E.A.R.S., the primary caregiver must be a responsible adult. The rabbit should be treated as an integral part of the family, i.e., no group ownership (such as a classroom pet). **WE DO NOT** adopt rabbits as pets for small children.

**The entire family must want the rabbit.**

**2) Indoor Housing.** Adopters of E.A.R.S. rabbits must understand that our rabbits are to live as household companions. This means that they must have their primary living space indoors, and must spend every night indoors. During the daytime, adopters can allow their rabbit's outdoor daytime exercise. If this is the case, the rabbit must be provided with an area with secure fencing, and supervision. E.A.R.S. staff may require additional safety precautions appropriate to their local. *This will be discussed during the consultation provided after (or before) the bunny has been moved into your home.*

**3) Social Requirements.** If the rabbit is going to be alone (i.e. without the company of people, a cat or other household pets) for the majority of the time, then we recommend that the adopter adopt a second rabbit as a companion to the first. Or adopt a pair of rabbits.

**4) Returns:** If there are such problems with the adopted rabbit that the adopter needs to return the rabbit, we ask that you give E.A.R.S. some advance notice. Nevertheless, ***all rabbits adopted from E.A.R.S. must be returned to E.A.R.S.***

**5) Exchange:** E.A.R.S. does not exchange animals. Exceptions may be made when:

- The E.A.R.S. staff and adopter are working together on making a match between an adoptee and a presiding rabbit AND
- In the E.A.R.S. Staff's judgment, a different match would be less stressful to the animals.