



Kennel vs. Foster Home Comparison

Your Dog and Delaware Valley Golden Retriever Rescue

Relinquishing your Golden Retriever, for whatever reason, may be extremely difficult. We understand that. That difficulty and heartbreak was the very reason DVGRR was established, and we've found loving homes for over 3,200 dogs since our inception in 1993.

You can be confident that through our rigorous adoption screening process and our facility at Golden Gateway your Golden will be treated with love and kindness, ultimately matched with adopters who fit the dog's personality, activity level and training needs.

Adoption Screening

Some adopters have complained that our screening process is too rigorous; however, our experience has proved that our process is ultimately in the best interest of each dog.

We require completion of an extensive adoption application and a home visit to ensure the new environment meets the dog's needs as well as the standards we maintain for our *own* Golden Retrievers. The result is better matching of dogs and adopters, with very few dogs returned to us by their new families.

Foster Home vs. Kennel

DVGRR began with the foster home model, and dogs in our program benefitted from excellent volunteer foster homes. However, by 1999, we'd outgrown that model and were unable to provide care for *every* Golden in need.

We opened Golden Gateway in 2000, thanks to the generosity of our supporters and donors, and the result for the dogs in our program has been nothing but positive. Plus, it allows DVGRR to reach and rescue even more Golden Retrievers in need.

While at Golden Gateway, the dogs in our program receive necessary medical care, multiple opportunities for play and exercise every day, premium food, and lots of love and affection from our dedicated staff and volunteers.

Golden Gateway is not an over-crowded, noisy, smelly kennel. We take a lot of pride in the facility and the comfort it provides to the Golden Retrievers. Specialized air-handling equipment eliminates odors, and we power wash dogs' sleeping quarters daily. Thick, comfortable bedding is washed and sterilized daily as are the numerous toys our dogs enjoy. Sound baffles reduce noise, and we have a Special Care Unit for dogs that need more extensive care.

Our dedicated facility, a rarity in rescue, allows us to ensure the highest quality of care for the dogs in our program including:

- Indoor and outdoor areas, sanitized daily.
- Kuranda beds: Designed for health and comfort.
- Tongue and groove side panels and special suite entrance doors for dog safety and comfort.
- Special Care Unit area for isolation and more extensive care.
- On-site veterinary center and staff veterinary assistant.
- Two-shift kennel staff & overnight monitoring by resident caretaker.
- Certified trainers on staff and daily training regimens for all dogs.
- Four acres of fenced exercise areas.
- Varying surfaces (gravel, rubber mulch, etc.) and obstacles for dog assessment/acclimation and training.
- Circumferential walking trail for leash training and exercise.
- Golden playgroup matching for exercise, fun and adoption assessment.

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture inspects our facility regularly, and our reports from them are always excellent.

Professional Staff & Program

Our entire staff is here for the dogs, and every action we take keeps their best interests at the forefront. DVGRR employs two certified trainers who use only positive reinforcement methods. DVGRR's veterinary assistant manages our on-site vet center, working closely with our veterinarian. A resident caretaker is available whenever needed during overnight hours.

We provide an established daily program of potty time, exercise, training, high-quality meals and treats. Golden retrievers get the exercise they need with walks on our perimeter path and playing in our two-acre fenced yard a minimum of six times a day.

We truly understand the difficulty of your decision. It will be easier knowing your Golden retriever is in a place dedicated solely to its comfort and happiness. Unlike any shelter you will ever see, Golden Gateway is a wonderful, happy and clean place. Rest assured that your Golden retriever's needs, whether physical or emotional, will be met and that we will be sure that his or her new home will be a home that we would be secure placing our OWN Golden retrievers into.

DVGRR is supported solely through donations, memberships and fundraising. We ask for tax-deductible donations at the time of relinquishment; however, no Golden retriever has ever been refused because of the owner's inability to donate.

A non-profit 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization, the official registration and financial information of Delaware Valley Golden Retriever Rescue, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Dept. of State by calling toll free, within PA 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.