

GRRAND Transport Safety Protocols

We are providing you with our Transport Safety Protocols, to ensure that you are fully aware of what is required of our volunteer drivers, to transport dogs safely for GRRAND. We need to continually remind ourselves of the challenges that many of these dogs face as they transition from being recent strays into new foster and adoption homes. Therefore, it is critical that we follow rigid protocols to make sure we and the dogs are as safe as possible from initial pickup to final drop off.

Detailed below are GRRAND's specific protocols to be followed on every transport.

1. All dogs must be restrained in one of only two manners. They can be transported in a crate or they possibly can be tethered with a leash in a backseat to a headrest.

EVERY DOG MUST BE CRATED OR RESTRAINED IN EVERY VEHICLE.

This risks to all in the vehicle are obvious. We are transporting dogs we do not know, on highways at high speed. There are so many things an unknown dog can do, if not restrained on a highway to cause a serious or even deadly accident.

NOTHING IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE SAFETY OF OUR DRIVERS AND OUR DOGS.

2. If we are transporting two or more dogs, they must be completely separated from each other. Both can be crated; one can be in a crate and the other tethered or they both can be tethered if they absolutely cannot get near each other.

3. When transferring dogs from one vehicle to another, every precaution must be taken to ensure everyone's safety. Dogs must have collars on and be properly leashed, preferably twice, to make sure a dog does not slip a leash and escape. The majority of the dogs we rescue and transport have just been in an animal shelter and are scared, nervous and basically feral. We should never assume that just because a dog seems nice that it will behave at all like a family dog.

4. Once the dog is in your vehicle, the best thing to do is to drive directly to the drop off spot. The dogs must be crated or tethered as much as possible. Providing a drink of water or letting them stretch their legs is not necessary. A bathroom break before a trip is advisable, but only if the dog is fully leashed. Please be fully aware that all of these dogs are very high flight risks. If somehow a dog gets away from us we will likely never see it again. That is an absolute worst-case scenario for everyone involved in trying to do the right thing as part of GRRAND.

5. Some dogs have behavioral issues, that our intake coordinator will make me aware of and I will pass that information along to our drivers. Some dogs should only be taken out of crates or put in crates by our professionals or employees of an animal shelter.

6. When handling the dogs wearing leather gloves is highly recommended. The dogs can turn in an instant and it is simply better to be safe than sorry.

Thank you all for everything you do for GRRAND. We have had a great 25 years so far. We want to make sure we have another productive 25 years ahead of us saving these dogs and at the same time protecting ourselves.

