

Home for the Holidays. . . The Gift of Companionship

Here at RCHS, we recognize that the holidays are a favorite time to bring furry friends into the home. . .to surprise children, elderly relatives, partners, friends, and others with whom we share our lives.

Because cats have a much smaller impact on neighborhoods, households, and lifestyles than dogs, we restrict our “Gift of Companionship” program to cats and kittens only. If you are interested in a gift certificate for a dog/puppy, please ask.

We are eager to help well-intentioned shoppers become well-informed shoppers. To find the right cat or kitten to spread holiday cheer this year, please take a moment to think about the following questions before proceeding:

- Has this person ever talked about adding a cat to their lifestyle?
- Would you feel comfortable receiving a gift of this magnitude from this person?
- Does this person have a realistic understanding of the care involved with being a guardian for a cat and will they be able to afford or can you help provide the necessities required in order to care for their new companion?
- Will this person have the time and interest to socialize a cat or small animal?
- Is this person prepared to tolerate late-night kitten crazies or would an older companion be more suitable?
- Do you know the daily routine of this person’s life? **Does their landlord allow animals?** Do they have enough time to devote to an animal? Will everyone in the household be pleased to receive a new animal into the home? **Will their resident animals be willing to add a new member to their clan?**
- Does your friend have any allergies to animals, or do any members of their household?