

COASTAL CAROLINA RABBIT RESCUE (CCRR)

FOSTER GUIDELINES

Friendly guidance to help you care for your foster rabbit and understand CCRR expectations.

Thank you for opening your home and heart to a rescued rabbit. Fosters are the lifeline of our organization — you make it possible for us to save lives, provide medical care, and prepare rabbits for their forever homes. These guidelines are meant to help you feel supported and set up for success. They are the friendly, day-to-day companion to your Foster Care Agreement.

1. General Care & Living Environment

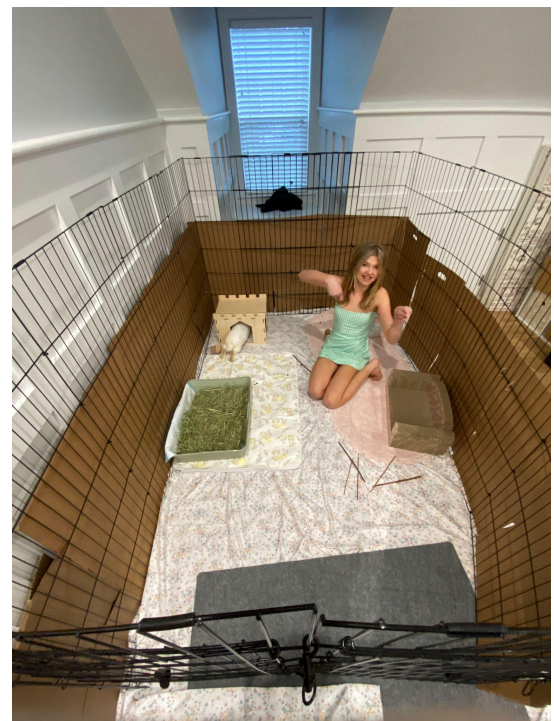
All foster rabbits with CCRR must live indoors in a safe, climate-controlled area.

Traditional small rabbit cages or hutches are not appropriate as a rabbit's primary living space. Foster rabbits should be housed in a clean, safe, roomy, bunny-proofed enclosure or contained indoor area that fits the rabbit's size, age, behavior, medical needs, and litter habits. This may look different from home to home and may include an x-pen, a sectioned-off room, or another safe contained setup.

Because many foster rabbits are not yet spayed/neutered and may not be fully litter box trained, it is usually not realistic for them to be fully free-roam right away. Most foster rabbits should remain in a defined, bunny-proofed area until their behavior, litter habits, and medical needs make more freedom appropriate. Your foster rabbit's space should:

- be indoors and protected from heat, cold, predators, and escape
- allow the rabbit to move around comfortably, stretch out, and rest
- include soft, safe flooring
- include a hiding space or spot to feel secure
- be fully bunny-proofed from cords, chargers, plants, cleaners, medications, and other hazards
- keep the rabbit safely separated from other animals, including rabbits they are not bonded to

Foster rabbits should never be left unsupervised with young children, other pets, or anyone who cannot safely handle and care for them.



2. Food, Water, Litter & Cleanliness

Fosters are expected to provide:

- unlimited fresh grass hay
- clean, fresh water at all times, provided in a ceramic or heavy bowl rather than a water bottle
- appropriate pellets and greens, as directed by CCRR
- a large litter box with rabbit-safe litter or bedding
- regular cleaning to keep the rabbit's space sanitary and comfortable, using diluted white vinegar only, as many household cleaning products can be harmful to rabbits

Many foster rabbits will need time to settle in, and some may be messy at first. That is normal, especially for rabbits who are unaltered, stressed, or still learning litter habits.

3. Health & Medical Care

Please monitor your foster rabbit daily for:

- appetite and water intake
- poop and urine output
- activity and energy level
- breathing changes
- any signs of pain, illness, injury, or unusual behavior

If something seems off, contact CCRR right away. Please do this early — do not wait until it becomes an emergency if you can help it.

CCRR covers approved medical expenses only. That means CCRR must authorize the visit, schedule or approve the appointment, and approve any treatment plan in advance whenever reasonably possible. If a true emergency occurs, contact CCRR as soon as possible.

Please do not independently schedule non-emergency vet care or approve procedures at CCRR's expense without checking with us first.

4. Communication & Weekly Check-Ins

Good communication helps us support both you and your foster rabbit.

Fosters are expected to send CCRR a brief weekly update that includes:

- appetite
- urine and poop habits
- activity level / behavior
- any concerns or questions

Fosters are required to submit, at least once per week, one current photo of the rabbit and one current photo of the enclosure or living area. Additional photos and videos are always encouraged and appreciated for promotion.

These updates help us monitor wellbeing, provide guidance, and promote rabbits for adoption through social media, newsletters, and other outreach.

5. Transportation, Travel & Temporary Care

Fosters are generally expected to help with transportation to vet appointments and adoption events when reasonably able. If transportation is difficult, please let us know as early as possible so we can try to help.

If you plan to travel or be away from home, you must notify CCRR in advance. We may be able to help arrange pet sitting, temporary fostering, or another approved plan.

Please do not leave your foster rabbit with a friend, family member, pet sitter, or boarding facility unless CCRR has approved it first.

6. Supplies & Support

Fosters are expected to provide the basics of day-to-day care, including housing, food, hay, litter, and enrichment.

That said, CCRR wants to support our fosters as much as we can. When available, we may be able to help with:

- safe enclosure ideas or setup guidance
- hay, pellets, litter, or other supplies
- transport assistance
- medical coordination

Because CCRR is still growing and has limited storage and resources, we cannot guarantee that we will always have everything available. But we will absolutely do our best to support you.

7. Role of a Foster

Fostering is often the “getting ready for forever” stage.

That may mean you are caring for a rabbit who is:

- not yet altered
- not yet litter trained
- shy, stressed, or under-socialized
- newly rescued and still decompressing

Your job as a foster is to provide safety, stability, observation, and daily care while CCRR works on medical care, promotion, and placement. Patience, consistency, and early communication make all the difference.

8. Adoption & Placement

All foster rabbits remain the property of CCRR while in foster care.

CCRR handles:

- adopter screening and approval
- final placement decisions
- adoption coordination

Fosters may not independently give away, rehome, transfer, surrender, sell, or place foster rabbits with another person or organization. If someone expresses interest in adopting your foster rabbit, please send them our way.

9. If Fostering Stops Being Sustainable

We understand that life happens.

If at any point fostering is no longer workable for your home, schedule, or family, please let us know as early as possible. You are not “stuck,” but we do need time to make a safe plan for the rabbit.

Whenever possible, please give us at least two weeks’ notice so we can line up another foster or next steps.

10. Our Commitment to You

CCRR is committed to supporting every foster with guidance, compassion, and teamwork. We deeply appreciate every person who says yes to helping a rabbit in need.

Thank you for being part of this work.

Acknowledgement

By fostering with Coastal Carolina Rabbit Rescue, you acknowledge that you have read and understand these guidelines and agree to follow CCRR’s care standards and Foster Care Agreement.

Coastal Carolina Rabbit Rescue • foster@carolinarabbits.org • (910) 216 - 0630

