



Helping Labs Find Their Fur-ever Homes

Labrador Ledger

Special Edition

www.BrooklineLabRescue.org

HELPING LABS FIND THEIR FUR-EVER HOMES

Brookline Labrador
Retriever Rescue
P.O. Box 638
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Please visit

www.brooklinelabrescue.org

- For more information on adopting a Lab from us
- To apply to adopt
- Volunteering
- For details on how to surrender a Lab to us
- To view pictures of available Labs
- To make a donation
- To view our Success Stories
- To shop for Brookline T-Shirts and more

Adopting with Brookline

Almost nothing is as exciting as making the decision to adopt a dog. Congratulations! If you've decided to adopt, or are seriously considering it, you've already taken a good look at your situation and decided that you have enough time and energy to devote to a new four-legged member of the family and are looking for just the right dog to adopt. But which dog will fit your lifestyle? Have you considered a Labrador Retriever? Brookline Labrador Retriever Rescue (BLRR) is a "breed rescue" – one that specializes in Labs or Lab mixes. We can help you decide if a Lab is right for you and then help you find the right Lab to fit your situation.

The first step is to fill out an application, which can be found on our web site at www.brooklinelabrescue.org. Once we receive your application and determine that you're in our coverage area, a volunteer will contact you to talk to you about what type of Lab you're looking for and to schedule a home visit.

BLRR evaluates all adopting homes before placing a Lab with an adoptive family. This helps us make the right match between dog and adopter. The volunteer will talk to you about what kind of Lab you're looking for – Puppy or Adult? Male or Female? Is there a color you have in mind? A volunteer may give you things to think about regarding your preferences. For example, did you know that Labs don't fully mature until they are three years old? That's a long puppy-hood! Unless you have the energy to keep up with a puppy, maybe an adult Lab would better suit your lifestyle. The volunteer will also ask you questions like, "Who will care for the dog when you're not home?", "Will the dog be crated during the day, and if so, for how many hours?", "How do you plan to exercise the dog?" and "What will you do if your new

dog doesn't get along with your current dog?" There are no right or wrong answers. It's all part of making a good match. Lastly, the volunteer will talk with you about dogs we have who are waiting for forever homes – the right Lab may be closer than you think! Now comes the hard part. The waiting. If we don't already have a dog that you're interested in, you may have to wait until a Lab meeting your description finds its way to us. Unfortunately, Labs are surrendered to us with some frequency, but happily for you that means there is often a new dog for you to consider. How long would you have to wait for the right Lab? It depends on what you're looking for and how flexible you're willing to be in your preferences.

And then it happens. You're contacted about a Lab fitting your description and you think this might be THE ONE! Your volunteer will submit your application to the volunteer handling the dog. If you are matched with the dog, we will make arrangements with you and the surrendering or foster family to meet the Lab. If all goes well, then you will take your new dog home to begin the pre-adoptive period of the adoption.

What's the pre-adoptive period? All adoptions begin with a minimum two-week pre-adoptive period. This is a chance for you and the new dog to get to know each other and for the Lab's true personality to show itself. Imagine for a minute what it would be like to be taken from the home you knew, and taken to a place where you didn't speak the language, don't know the customs, and had to eat food you weren't used to eating. That's a bit like what a dog goes through going to a new home. The pre-adoptive period allows the dog to acclimate to her surroundings. It also gives you the opportunity to make sure that this is absolutely the right dog for you. If at the end of the two weeks,



Adopting with BLRR (cont'd)

you decide that it isn't a match made in heaven, arrangements will be made to place the dog elsewhere and the volunteer handling your application will continue to help you find the right Lab.

Once the pre-adoptive period is over and you've decided that you and your "fur-kid" are well suited for each other, the volunteer will return to your home and complete the adoption paperwork.

Of course, dogs, like people, don't come with guarantees, and sometimes problems (small and large) do develop with the dog in a new environment. However, Brookline always has a volunteer to call on for advice and support, again helping to make sure that you and your Lab remain a forever family.

For more information on adopting a Lab from BLRR contact us at:

P.O. Box 638, Warrington, PA 18976-0638

or

adoption@brooklinelabrescue.org

Where We Operate

Brookline serves areas of Pennsylvania and New Jersey depending on the number and availability of our volunteers.

Our current coverage area includes all or portions of the following counties:

Pennsylvania (*Adams, Berks, Bucks, Centre, Chester, Clearfield, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Franklin, Fulton, Lebanon, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton, Perry, Philadelphia and York*) and Burlington, Camden and Gloucester Counties in **New Jersey**.

Please refer to the Coverage Area page on our website at www.brooklinelabrescue.org for more details on the areas we serve. In certain areas, such as Philadelphia, we may ask that you email us with your address before you submit an adoption application.

About Brookline

Brookline Labrador Retriever Rescue (BLRR), founded in 1997, is a nonprofit all-volunteer organization that specializes in placing Labs and Lab mixes. We place an average of 100 dogs per year in their forever homes. BLRR maintains a regularly updated list of available Labs that are being given up by their owners (but still living at home) and dogs pulled from shelters and puppy mills who are placed in foster care with our volunteers. We evaluate both the dog and the prospective adopting home to help ensure a good fit for everyone. All dogs are vet checked and their shots updated before they are adopted.

Help Us Help Our Labs

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit volunteer organization, we depend entirely on donations and fundraisers to operate. If you would like to help, please consider making a donation today. You can direct it to our *General Fund* that covers expenses such as general veterinary care or to our *Bright Horizons Fund* for our Labs with special needs. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by the law. You can donate through a link to PayPal on our website or send a check to the address on the form below:



Thank You for Supporting Brookline!

I want to help the Labs! I am able to give:

\$10 \$20 \$30 \$50 Other \$ _____

Contributions are tax deductible

Please specify:

Bright Horizons Fund General Fund
(for special needs dogs)

*Check out our website for free ways to help us
and to shop for items such as Brookline T-Shirts
at www.brooklinelabrescue.org*

Name

Address

City/State

Zip

Telephone

Email

Checks made payable to **Brookline Labrador Retriever Rescue** should be sent to P.O. Box 638, Warrington, PA 18976-0638