

# DEPLOYING SOON??

Deployment for Soldiers with Pets can sometimes be challenging. We know that your pet is your family member and relies on you for their care and needs. It is important that along with your other steps in deployment readiness, you consider and execute an Animal Care Plan for your pets. They need to be in a safe, responsible home environment for the duration of your time overseas. For the welfare of the animals, long term boarding is not a good option for animals. Fort Stewart Pet Boarding Facility will only board pets up to 90 days. However, we recommend Soldiers to contact one of the following organizations if a foster family is needed. Many are free services and provide information and tips on how to make this process easier. Families that are not deploying but interested in helping their fellow Soldiers can sign up in these organizations as a foster family as well.

<http://www.guardianangelsforsoldierspet.org>

<http://www.fostermilitarypets.com/index.html>

<http://www.operationnoblefoster.org/>

<https://www.netpets.org/netp/foster.php>

## **Pet Foster Plan Tips and Recommendations:**

### **Spay or neuter your animal.**

This alleviates issues with unwanted breeding and socializing problems within the caretaker's home.

### **Health requirements and History:**

Make sure your pet is current on all vaccines needed

Provide the caretaker with the current records.

Provide a complete health history and current medications, allergies, heartworm and flea prevention information.

Provide your veterinarian's contact information.

Contact your vet to inform them and sign any releases for your caretaker to obtain medical decisions for the welfare of your pet.

### **Personality Profile:**

Provide a detailed history about your pet's temperament, social skills, training, habits, fears, and particular needs.

### **Permanent Identification:**

Tag and Microchip your pet. Be sure to have all rabies, pet license, and identification tags on the animal to include the caretaker's contact information.

### **Written Financial and Caretaking Agreement:**

Sign with your caretaker a formal written agreement covering issues such as:

Monetary payment of routine expenses (food, grooming, toys, supplies, and maintenance vet care)

Return of ownership after estimated period of time

Emergency medical bills and level of pursuit of treatment/euthanasia

Any injuries occurring to the pet or death while in foster care.

Contingency plans if Owner or Caretaker can no longer care for the pet,

Communication plan, photos, correspondence