



TIPS FOR ATTENDEES AND THEIR PETS



You should only bring your pet to the event if it is well-behaved, non-aggressive and doesn't get stressed out in crowded and noisy situations. Your pet will be exposed to other barking dogs, people speaking loudly on microphones, crowds clapping and attendees cheering. You know your pet the best, so please use your best judgment to make sure that your pet will enjoy the event just as much as you.



We have a number of staff members who are always carefully watching the crowds and pets to ensure everyone's safety, however it only takes a second for a dog bite to occur. Please review safe dog (and all pets, for that matter) greeting behaviors with your children before attending the event. Remind your child(ren) to always ask the owner's permission to pet an animal. Allow the calm pet to sniff their hands and then they should gently pet the animal's chest, chin or back (not the top of its head), speaking calmly and quietly to the pet. Children should never "stare down" a dog, jump on it, grab it from behind or scream at it. If a dog is hyper and won't sit for the owner, walk away and don't allow your child to pet the dog. Sometimes the most well behaved pets can be startled, especially if they're already keyed up from being at such an exciting event.



Your pet must be up to date on all age-appropriate shots. Dogs must be on a fixed leash or a locked retractable leash, no longer than 6 feet, at all times. No female pets in heat can attend. You'll be required to sign a pet waiver when purchasing tickets.



If you are interested in adopting a pet, there will be pets available for adoption



Take note of the pet-potty areas located outdoors. While we do have pet clean-up teams at the event, you'll also be given bags for your pet's waste pick-up when you enter. Please be kind and pick up after your pet.



Pet water stations will be scattered throughout the fest so that your "four legged" companion doesn't get dehydrated. These are communal bowls, so if you have a puppy or elderly pet, please keep it safe and bring a travel or disposable bowl for their use.



This is a large event. If you have a pet breed with you that can't tolerate this kind of exertion, (for example, English Bulldogs), please plan to bring a stroller or wagon for them.



Pace yourself! It's a long day and there are many things to see. Make sure you take periodic breaks and give your pet a chance to rest.



Many vendors offer some sort of treat for pets. If your pet has a sensitive stomach or is super excited, you may want to consider allowing your pet one or two treats and then allowing her/him to enjoy the rest at home.



If you have a small or tiny dog, you may want to be prepared to either carry it or have a stroller available. There are so many large and super large dogs at the event that some small pet owners feel overwhelmed and their little fur-babies may unintentionally get stepped on.



If you are attending the event with the intent of adopting a new family member, please bring your own crate or some sort of car restraint with you.



The asphalt throughout the parking lot may be extremely hot. It could easily burn your pets' feet if your pet has to walk across it. Please consider putting booties or some sort of protective footwear on your four-legged friend.