



Feathered Friends Sanctuary & Rescue Inc.  
1570 County Road A  
Edgerton, Wisconsin 53544

Website: feathered-friends.com  
Phone: (608) 302-1732  
Email: mybirdlife@aol.com

## ADOPTION QUESTIONNAIRE

***If interested in adopting one of our birds, please read the following in its entirety and complete the questionnaire:***

***1. Fill out the adoption questionnaire completely.*** We will not accept your questionnaire if any fields are left blank. Your questionnaire will not be sent to our Adoption Committee if you do not provide your complete name, address, phone number, and email address or if you do not completely answer all questions.

***2. Be specific about the types of birds you have experience with.*** Your previous experience with birds, as well as your current birds, will help us identify an appropriate bird for you.

***3. Be specific in your answer about what is toxic or unhealthy for birds.*** If you do not know, find out. We will not adopt birds to people who do not take the time to identify substances that are toxic to birds.

***4. Please list all contact information for your avian veterinarian (name, address, phone number) so we can contact them as a reference.*** If you do not have an avian veterinarian because you do not currently have a bird, please list your regular veterinarian (if you have other pets). If you have no pets and cannot supply a veterinarian reference, please call us to discuss this once you have submitted your questionnaire. This does not mean your questionnaire will be declined. It means we need to talk to you to be sure the bird will receive proper veterinary care once they go home. If you currently have birds but cannot supply a veterinary reference, this will be considered when processing your questionnaire and very likely will affect our decision.

***5. Please also list contact information for at least one character reference.*** We prefer you supply someone in a leadership role in the community, such as an employer, teacher, physician, pastor/minister, etc, but you may use a family member or friend if you do not have a reference of this type. A strong character reference would be very beneficial, especially if you don't have a veterinarian reference.



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**6. Once we receive your questionnaire, we will contact references and send your questionnaire to our Adoption Committee for review.** This process can take several weeks, depending on how busy your veterinarian and other references are. Do not expect to hear from us immediately regarding your questionnaire. One way to speed up the process is to come out and meet the birds. This does not guarantee your questionnaire will lead to an adoption, but it will help us get an idea of what bird might be right for you and how you would handle having a bird. Having a questionnaire reviewed does not guarantee that you will be able to adopt a bird.

**7. We will adopt birds to applicants who live within approximately a two hour radius of our rescue.** It is time consuming and expensive for us to travel long distances for a home visit prior to adoption, and it is time consuming and expensive for you to visit our rescue to meet the birds before adopting one. Several visits are required before an adoption can take place. If you live more than two hours away, this does not automatically disqualify you. If you have outstanding references or experience, we may be able to waive the distance limitation.



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### ***How Adoptability Is Determined***

The Adoption Committee of Feathered Friends Sanctuary & Rescue, Inc., considers the applicant's length of experience and what types of birds they have experience with. While we have some birds that are very tame and sociable and will do well in most homes, we also have some birds that have been neglected or abused for years and have physical and/or psychological concerns. These birds will only be considered for applicants who have the experience necessary to work with the bird. We also have special needs birds that will require more frequent veterinary care, in which case, the applicant needs to take into consideration the costs involved. When a bird comes to Feathered Friends Sanctuary & Rescue Inc., we get to know the bird before she/he is made available for adoption. Once we understand the bird's personality, the Adoption Committee review questionnaires to find the best fit for both the bird and the applicant. When we think we have found a suitable fit, we contact those applicants to schedule a time for them to come in to meet the bird. This allows us to get a feel for how their personalities would mesh before making our final decision.

### ***Important Notes:***

If you have little to no experience with birds, do not expect to adopt a large bird. We believe that people should start with smaller birds to learn how to care for and interact with birds before attempting larger birds.

Feathered Friends Sanctuary & Rescue, Inc., reserves the right to approve or deny any questionnaire and subsequent application for adoption for any reason

Because of the potential long life of bigger birds, the age of the adoption applicant as well as the age of the bird is a contributing factor

Don't expect to come to the Sanctuary and go home with a bird on your first visit. You will have to come to the Sanctuary at least several times to spend time with the bird that you want to adopt.

### ***A Message to New Bird Owners***

It is the responsibility of Feathered Friends Sanctuary & Rescue, Inc., to educate and inform



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each applicant on responsible bird ownership, regardless of experience. We also let the adoptive families know we are available to answer questions at any time after adoption.

Birds are very different from other pets. A dog is not left inside a cage 24 hours per day, but some birds are. A goldfish will not begin to mutilate itself if it doesn't get enough attention or if it is bored, but a bird will. All birds come to us with baggage; some have years of unhappiness to work through. It is our responsibility to work with the birds and with their adoptive families to provide the best possible situation for the bird.

In general, the larger the bird, the louder they are. Birds do not understand that you may want to hear the TV or someone on the phone instead of their screaming for attention. They don't care if there are babies or small children that need to nap throughout the day. No amount of behavior training will ever keep a bird from vocalizing. They may scream because they are bored or want attention, but they may also scream because they are happy. If you adopt a large bird, you will have to deal with this every day.

If you live in an apartment, condo, or townhouse, don't expect to adopt a large bird, no matter how much experience you have or how quiet the bird may seem at the rescue. There are many quieter birds that would do fine in these settings, and we will match you up with this kind of bird instead.

Birds live a long time. Cats may live 20 years, and dogs might not live more than 10-15 years, but large birds can live 50/70 years. Even smaller birds generally live 20-40 years, so this is not a commitment to be taken lightly.

It is the goal of Feathered Friends Sanctuary & Rescue, Inc., to match each bird with the home that will be the safest and allow the bird the best chance for happiness and physical and psychological wellbeing

Please see the following link for more information about birds. This site will help you determine if a bird is right for you and also if you are right for a bird.

<https://www.petfinder.com/pet-adoption/other-pet-adoption/bird-adoption-tips/>

***For the health and safety of the birds, we do not ship! Please do not even ask.***



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### Adoption Questionnaire:

<b>Name:</b>		<b>Age:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>			
<b>Spouse/Significant Other:</b>		<b>Age:</b>	
<b>Is this person aware of the tentative adoption?</b>			
<b>Child's Name:</b>		<b>Age:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>			
<b>City:</b>	<b>State:</b>	<b>Zip:</b>	
<b>Home Phone:</b>		<b>Work Phone:</b>	
<b>Best time to call/at what number?</b>			
<b>Occupation:</b>		<b>Spouse's Occupation:</b>	
<b>If your present relationship were to change, who would keep the bird?</b>			
<b>Do all members in your household know you are planning to adopt a bird?</b>			
<b>Who will be the primary caretaker?</b>			
<b>How many hours daily will the bird be left alone?</b>			
<b>Type of Dwelling:</b>	<b>House</b>	<b>Condo</b>	<b>Apartment</b> <b>Other</b>
<b>Do you rent or own?</b>			
<b>If you rent, do you have a landlord's permission to have a bird?</b>			
<b>Please include a letter from your landlord giving his/her permission with this questionnaire.</b>			



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<b>Does anyone in your home smoke?</b>	
<b>Do you have any other birds?</b>	<b>What species?</b>
<b>Do you have dogs?</b>	<b>How many/what breeds?</b>
<b>Do you have cats?</b>	<b>How many?</b>
<b>Do you have any other pets?</b>	<b>How many/what kinds?</b>
<b>Do you have any previous experience with birds?</b> <b>If so, please include what species you have dealt with</b> <b>Please provide details about your previous bird experience</b> <b>Where is/are the bird/birds now?</b>	
<b>What type of parrot are you looking to adopt?</b>	
<b>Will you accept a handicapped bird?</b>	
<b>If you travel, who will take care of your bird when you are away?</b>	
<b>Do you have an avian vet?</b> <b>Name and phone number?</b>	
<b>Please include any other vet's name, address, and phone number.</b>	
<b>Please list the name, address, and phone number of at least one character reference.</b>	
<b>How do you plan to socialize your parrot?</b>	



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**Are you aware that Parrots have a normal urge to chew wood, buttons, jewelry, furniture, molding and any other thing that may get in the way of their potentially destructive beaks?**

**All parrots have the capability of talking, but not all will talk. Some birds will scream in loud pitches, continuously. They may just need attention, food or love. They may also have behavioral habits that could be hard to break. How would you handle these situations?**

**Parrots can require a lot of attention and maintenance. Medical attention and properly feeding the bird can be expensive. Have you considered this?**

**If you were to move out of state, would you contact FFSR as a courtesy?**

**Under what circumstances would you not be able to keep the bird? (Check all that apply)**

<b>Divorce/Separation</b>	<b>New Baby</b>	<b>New Job</b>
<b>Allergies</b>	<b>New Relationship</b>	<b>Illness</b>
<b>Preferring one person over another</b>	<b>Other (please explain)</b>	

**Why do you feel you are qualified to adopt a bird?**

**Would you permit inspection of your home prior to an adoption?**

**Would you allow a post-adoption visit to your home by a FFSR volunteer?**

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**Feathered Friends**  **Sanctuary & Rescue Inc.**

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**If you have other birds, how would you quarantine this bird?**

**Describe signs of illness in a bird.**

**Describe some of the dangers that a bird might be exposed to in any household.**

**What are some of the foods that are toxic to birds?**

**Vitamin deficiencies can be hazardous to your bird's health. It is important to provide your bird with a wide variety of foods. What foods would you feed to an exotic bird?**

**Where will the bird's cage be located?**

**How is the proper cage size determined for each bird?**

**Certain materials used as a cage liner could kill a bird. List safe cage liners**

**What materials are safe for perches?**



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<b>Why is it necessary to have different diameter perches?</b>	
<b>List some toxic household cleaners and plants</b>	
<b>Are you aware that your Bird could outlive you? What plans have you made for this?</b>	
<b>Do you have asthma or allergies?</b>	
<b>Have you ever been charged with or convicted of animal abuse or neglect or domestic violence in this or any other state. Has anyone in the household where this bird will reside ever been charged with or convicted of animal abuse or neglect or domestic violence in this or any other state.    Yes_____                      No_____</b>	
<b>FFFS reminds you that in the event you cannot keep your bird, you must call us. Please alert us if you feel you cannot keep this bird. We have made a commitment with the donor that must be honored at all times.</b>	
<b>Potential Adopter's Signature:</b>	<b>Date:</b>



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## MEDIA RELEASE FORM

I, \_\_\_\_\_, grant permission to \_\_\_\_\_, hereinafter known as the "Media" to use my image (photographs and/or video) for use in Media publications including but not limited to: videos, email blasts, newsletters, general publications, websites and/or affiliates (social media).

I hereby waive any right to inspect or approve the finished photographs or electronic matter that may be used in conjunction with them now or in the future, whether that use is known to me or unknown, and I waive any right to royalties or other compensation arising from or related to the use of the image.

Please **initial** the paragraph below which is applicable to your present situation:

\_\_\_\_\_ - I am 20 years of age or older and I am competent to contract in my own name. I have read this release before signing below, and I fully understand the contents, meaning and impact of this release. I understand that I am free to address any specific questions regarding this release by submitting those questions in writing prior to signing, and I agree that my failure to do so will be interpreted as a free and knowledgeable acceptance of the terms of this release.

\_\_\_\_\_ - I am the parent or legal guardian of the below named child. I have read this release before signing below, and I fully understand the contents, meaning and impact of this release. I understand that I am free to address any specific questions regarding this release by submitting those questions in writing prior to signing, and I agree that my failure to do so will be interpreted as a free and knowledgeable acceptance of the terms of this release.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent or legal guardian (if under 18 years of age): \_\_\_\_\_