**Pet Partners Training Information**

**ElderPet** currently offers "**Pet Partners" workshops three times a year – in January, April, and September/October.** The Pet Partners workshop is for PEOPLE only – no pets allowed on this day. **Pet Partners Animal/Handler Evaluations take place, by appointment only, on a Saturday two weeks following each workshop, either in Exeter or at UNH in Durham.** During the session we evaluate you and your pet to determine how well you would work together as a team in situations that might be encountered on a typical "visit."

**The fee for the workshop is $75.00/person, which includes the textbooks, all materials, and the evaluation of ONE animal.** (There is an extra $25 fee for each additional animal. Additional animals will be evaluated if we have space available.)

Once you complete the workshop and the evaluation, you will need to register with Delta Society as a Pet Partners Team. This requires paying additional fees directly to Delta. This registration is good for two years. The benefits to becoming a registered Delta Pet Partners Team, including liability insurance, are discussed during the workshop.

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Not every person, and certainly not every animal, makes a good visiting team. It depends on how comfortable you are volunteering in different settings, the skills and abilities of your pet, and how well the two of you work together. It also takes a certain amount of commitment, both up front and on-going. In order to help you decide whether or not you want to attend the Pet Partners Workshop, below is a list of the requirements necessary to become a registered Delta Society Pet Partners team.

- Your pet must be **at least one year old**.
- Your pet must have lived with you for **at least six months.**
- You must complete the Pet Partners workshop.
- You and your pet must be evaluated by a Delta Society licensed team evaluator and must receive a passing score on both the skills and aptitude tests.
- To receive a passing score, dogs must be **able to perform basic obedience skills including sit, lie down, stay, and come when called, and have the appropriate temperament for visiting.**

*We recommend that dogs complete a Canine Good Citizen class, or at the very least a basic obedience course, prior to being evaluated for Pet Partners.*

- Before your pet can be evaluated, you must show proof of rabies vaccination. This must be a certificate from your veterinarian; a rabies tag will not suffice.
- Prior to registering with Delta Society, you must have your veterinarian fill out a health screening form for your pet.
- You must submit all forms to Delta Society along with the appropriate fee (fee schedule will be provided to you during the workshop).

**To register for an upcoming workshop, please print and fill out the workshop registration form and send it in with your payment**. **Payment is required to hold your spot.**

Questions may be directed to Lisa Karakostas, Licensed Delta Society Pet Partners Instructor/Evaluator, at Lkarakostas@ehr.org.