

# Rabbit Information Sheet

*Thank you for purchasing your rabbit from Animal City, a family-owned business serving Connecticut for over seventy years. Rabbits make wonderful pets when given the proper care and attention. This information sheet will offer general advice on providing your new family member with the best possible care.*

## **General Information**

Rabbits are small mammals that come from various regions throughout the world. Most pet rabbits are native to Europe. At Animal City, we sell mini-rex rabbits, Netherland dwarf rabbits, Holland lop rabbits, and mini-lop rabbits. All of these breeds are small and will range in size from 2.5-5 lbs. They live an average of 7-10 years.

## **Caging**

Rabbits are best kept in wire cages (indoors) or hutches (outdoors). There should be at least 600 hundred square inches of floor space. Additional space is required for more rabbits. Males can be housed with several females but two males will almost always fight.

## **Bedding**

Pine shavings are the most readily available and cheapest type of bedding one can buy. There are also many popular newspaper litters, such as Care Fresh, that can be used for such purposes. Chlorophyl or lemon scented litters may also be used to deodorize the smell of urine.

## **Food and Water**

Rabbits should be fed an alfalfa pellet (one cup per day) as their primary diet. They also need to be fed timothy hay (about a handful) on a daily basis. For treats one can offer their rabbit vegetables such as cauliflower, parsley, spinach, corn on the cob and carrots. Lettuce and cabbage should be avoided. There are also a number of commercial treats available from Animal City. Water should be provided in a plastic or glass bottle with a stainless steel ball and tip. Vitamins should be added to the water to promote overall health. Caregivers using vitamins will notice a stronger looking rabbit with a shinier coat.

## **Handling**

Rabbits should be picked up with two hands: one hand under the front legs and the other supporting its bottom. They should be held close to the ground. Young children need to be supervised. They can be taken outside on a leash and harness. As with any animal, you should always wash your hands before and after handling your rabbit.

## **Cleaning**

The bedding should be changed twice weekly and it is advised that the cage and accessories be sterilized at least once a month with a bleach and water solution. A spray bottle with one part bleach to three parts water works very well. Rabbits are very easy to litter train which can reduce the frequency of changing all the bedding and save money on bedding.

Again, we would like to thank you for choosing Animal City. Please feel free to call us with any questions or concerns.



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