



Guardian Program & Agreement

The Basics of the Guardian Program:

A dog needs to be a part of the family to develop their full potential. This is the reason we have a guardian dog program.

We are giving the dog to the guardian family to raise and love and keep as a member of their family. The family must be approved as guardian parents and agree to abide by our contract of care.

As a guardian puppy grows up, we monitor her temperament, drive, and health. If the female is exceptional, she will be used in our breeding program. Before any dog is bred, we will x-ray her hips (at our expense) to verify that she does not have hip dysplasia, have heart and patella tested and certified. This is done after her first heat cycle. If the hips aren't average or above in the breed (good enough to breed), we will have the dog spayed and ownership is then signed over to the guardian family.

When a female has passed health tests, she will come back to our home when she comes into her 2nd or possibly 3rd season depending on age (at 7th day) and stay with us until she has mated with the selected stud. This could mean that she is with us approx. 5 to 7 days. After being bred she will go back to her guardian home. 5 to 7 days before whelping (determined by breeder), she comes back to our home and has her babies here and stays until one week after she weans the pups (around 5-6 weeks). Females come into season up to twice a year. While we may not breed each female every season, we do breed back to back as much as possible per current veterinary guidelines. Timing of the breeding is at the discretion of the breeder.

The guardian home program is an excellent deal for the dog, it's a good deal for the guardian parents, and it's a good deal for producing an

exceptional doodle breeding program. It's one of those "win - win" situations for everyone involved. The family receives a quality, top pick dog. I am able to improve the breed by using only the best. But the main reason we have our guardian program is so that the dog lives in a home as a spoiled pet and gets lots of attention.

Who Qualifies for a Guardian Dog?

We are very selective of who we choose to become a guardian family. Our primary concern is that our dogs go into safe homes where they will be well taken care and loved as a family member. They must be in a home where they are not able to escape or get bred while in season. We expect the guardian parents to allow the dog to be a part of the family (a house dog). We look for people who are experienced dog owners. Guardian families should live within 1 hour of our home and provide transportation to us when needed. Everyone in the household should like the guardian arrangement. Guardian families must be willing to have us stop by on occasion with notice.

Families that are interested in breeding dogs are not good guardian families. We are placing dogs in their permanent family home, not in a breeding home. We do not split litters with Guardian Parents. This is not a program for someone who wants to be a breeder, but a guardian program in order to provide good forever homes for our dogs.

What are the Guardian Family's Responsibilities?

Transportation to and from Happy Top Doodles when necessary. While the guardian family does not pay for the puppy (or young adult), they must agree to purchase a dog crate, collar, leash, and all necessary items for pet care. They must also agree to feed a quality food that we recommend. They are also expected to strictly follow

feeding instructions during pregnancy. The guardian family must have a secure back yard for regular exercise. All guardian dogs are required to be on a monthly treatment of Revolution topical heartworm medication. You take care of all the pet type fees as if it were your dog. (food, vet bills and care).

How long do we share the dog?

Females are in guardianship until they turn 5 years of age or after 4 complete litters 3 puppies or less would not be counted as a complete litter).

At the end of breeding, Happy Top Doodles will have her spayed (up to \$100 cost if not at our vet) and ownership papers will be signed over to guardian family.

Males are in guardianship until they turn 6 years of age. At 6 years of age, after a written agreement is signed by Happy Top Doodles, we will get him neutered (up to \$100 cost if not at our vet) and ownership papers will be signed over to guardian parents.

Guardian homes should have the following:

- Own their own home
- Have their own car to transport.
- Prior experience dog ownership is a must
- Be willing to crate and house train the puppy. Teach the puppy basic obedience and/or therapy training.
- Afford to provide required dog food and Revolution heartworm treatment as well as regular vet checks and vaccines.
- Be prepared to have their own vet listed as a reference
- Fenced backyard to contain the puppy.
- Be available to help drive dog to and from our home for breeding and whelping.

- Keep us updated on the dog's progress via email or text. When in heat, we must be notified via phone and email. Pictures via email or text every 1 month for us to follow the puppy's progress so that we can watch him/her develop, and update our website. We also will require a visit to our Guardian Family's home every few months during the first year to assess the Guardian Puppy, as well as build a relationship with her for the future. Occasionally, we will ask our Guardian Families to bring the puppy to us for a visit so that she can get comfortable with our home for when she will be here with us in the future having babies :-).

- Be willing to socialize the puppy by taking it everywhere possible and showing him/her life in general

It is the responsibility of the guardian parents to make sure the dog remains in good health. The guardian parents are required to keep the dog current on routine veterinary care, shots, rabies, and good grooming. We cover health certification expenses. We cover medical expenses incurred during breeding and whelping while at our home.

- The guardian parents must keep us informed of the female's cycles. Females can come into season 2 times a year but it is usually every 8 to 12 months. When a female starts to cycle or drip blood we expect to get an email, text, or a phone call. Repeated attempts to contact us should continue, until confirmation is received from us that we have heard from you. If we plan to breed the female we will inform the guardian parents at this time. Females are usually bred between the 9th and 15th day of their season. We take them into our home about the 7th day.

What If I Have Another Dog Already In My Home?

We will not place a female puppy in a home where there is an intact male. We would need to meet all other pets as part of the application process. Guardian family agrees to not have unaltered animals in the

home during the Happy Top Doodles' ownership period of the guardian dog.

Who Owns the Dog:

Happy Top Doodles owns the dog until breeding obligations are met. We sign a contract with the guardian family clearly identifying that we have full breeding rights and can breed the dog when we choose. The dog remains registered in our name until breeding obligations are complete. The guardian family will assume all liability for the dog at time of guardian agreement and are responsible for the dog for her entire life. Once the breeding obligations are met Happy Top Doodles will have the dog spayed or neutered at our cost. At this point we will transfer ownership of the dog to the guardian.

If at anytime the guardian family can no longer care for the dog, they agree to return her to Happy Top Doodles. The dog may not be sold or given to any other party without prior written permission from Happy Top Doodles.

Monetary Requirements & Penalties:

If male is bred or neutered without permission from Cathy Prather- Happy Top Doodles, there is a \$10,000 penalty and all puppies and monies produced from this are property of Cathy Prather- Happy Top Doodles. Legal action will be started for the breach in contract. Any legal fees incurred by Happy Top Doodles to enforce this agreement are the sole responsibility of the Guardian home.

If female is bred without permission and/or spayed without my consent from Cathy Prather- Happy Top Doodles, there is a \$10,000 penalty and all puppies and monies produced from this are property of Cathy Prather- Happy Top Doodles. Legal action will be started for the

breach in contract. Any legal fees incurred by Happy Top Doodles to enforce this agreement are the sole responsibility of the Guardian home.

Training Requirement for Guardian Families:

We REQUIRE that our guardian puppies be taught basic obedience and taken to at least one set of obedience classes. This is NOT difficult to accomplish and will give your guardian the good behavior skills needed to be an asset to your family and the community for a lifetime.

Under What Circumstances Do We Remove a Dog from a Guardian Home?

There are very few reasons that we would ever take a puppy out of a guardian home. Reason for removal from a guardian home include, but not limited to, the following: The dog to allowed to run loose when there is no supervision, the guardian family does not allow us to have the dog to accommodate the breeding schedule, the dog gets bred by accident, the guardian parents do not notify us when a female comes in season, the dog is neglected or abused (according to our discretion), the guardian family moves before informing us personally, the dog must be rescued from an Animal Control facility.

These reasons will be discussed in detail before any puppy is placed in a Guardian Home. The Guardian Parents must agree to all terms with Happy Top Doodles and sign a contract with the breeder.

Any and all legal implications will be under jurisdiction of Gordon County, Georgia.

Guardian Family _____
Name: Address: _____
Phone: _____

Email: _____
DL or SSN: _____

Dog Name/Sex: _____
Microchip: _____
Date of Birth: _____
Parents: _____

Date Guardian Family obtained puppy: _____

Guardian Family accepts and abides by this agreement.
Print- _____

Sign- _____

Date: _____

Cathy Prather, aka Happy Top Doodles accepts and abides by this agreement.

Print- _____

Sign- _____

Date: _____