

DEERHILL INN SERVICE ANIMAL POLICY



- Unfortunately we are not able to accept pets at Deerhill Inn. We do, though, welcome service dogs with their human companions.
- Service animals are working animals, not pets. Under the ADA's revised Regulations, the definition of a "service animal" is limited to a dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability. The task(s) performed by the dog must be directly related to the person's disability. This is the definition we apply at Deerhill Inn.
- Under the ADA, "comfort", "therapy", or "emotional support animals" do not meet the definition of a service animal, and we are therefore not able to accept them at the Inn.
- The ADA does not require, nor does it recognize, proof of certification and we do not ask for documentary proof of any kind. There are a number of organizations that certify "service animals" which do not necessarily qualify under the ADA's revised Regulations. Service Dog Central, a community of service dog partners and trainers, advises: "There is no legitimate service dog certification or registration in the United States." (See Footnoteⁱ) We are happy to accept service animals that meet our Policy requirements in line with the ADA Regulations, and unfortunately cannot accept those that do not, regardless of certification.
- Because of the nature of their work, service dogs work in a one-to-one relationship with their human companions and we normally expect that each team will consist of only one human and one animal member.
- Under the ADA, service animals must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered unless these devices interfere with the service animal's work. We do not expect that service animals will run free in the Inn, but assume they will remain quietly beside their human companions at all times.

- **Because of the nature of their work, we expect that service animals will be with their human partners at all times and will never be left unattended in, for example, a guest room or a vehicle.**
- **We may exclude service animals if they are not under appropriate control and disturb or distress other guests. Inappropriate behavior might include barking anywhere including in the guest room, jumping, or running in the shared public areas of the Inn - unless these behaviors are specifically related to the service provided by the animal.**
- **We may, under the ADA, ask two questions of the human partner of a service animal: Is the animal required because of a disability? and: What work or task has the animal been trained to perform? (See Footnote¹) We will ensure that we ask these questions discreetly.**

ⁱ Service Dog Central further states: "There are criminal penalties for falsely claiming a pet as a service animal. These penalties can range from a small fine, to one over \$1,000 or a few days in jail up to a year in jail, depending on how the offense is committed and where. In some cases, the dog is confiscated and the owner may have a lengthy court battle to get the dog back."