Shelter Feeding Protocol

Though a dog’s stay at the Shelter is temporary, it is important that he is provided a regular feeding schedule of the highest quality food that Shelter finances permit. The Shelter has entered into a contract with Hill’s Pet Nutrition, Inc. to feed Science Diet to the animals. Science Diet food is delivered weekly as per the contract. Hill’s Pet Nutrition provides this food to the shelter at an extreme discount, and we are required to provide reports on how the food is utilized. It is therefore imperative that we comply with the stipulations of this contract and adhere to the provided feeding ratio in order to reduce waste.

All dog and cat food is stored in the food shed in the back of the shelter. All bags of food are placed on the shelves and not on the floor, unless there are extenuating circumstances. The date of delivery is written on the outside of every bag to help prevent food spoilage. When selecting a bag of food, the oldest bags are selected, and the contents are placed in the appropriately marked metal garbage can for protection against vermin. The garbage can will have food added only after it has been completely emptied in order to avoid having spoiled food collect at the bottom. The floor of the shed will be swept and any spilled food will be cleaned daily. We use clean litter buckets filled with food to move the food to the dog areas being fed.

When feeding dogs, food buckets, a variety of clean bowls, along with an appropriate measuring scoop, will be placed on a rolling cart for the area being fed. Bowls will be filled as the cart is wheeled in front of each kennel. Be aware of kennel signs that would indicate special diets or the need to separate occupants before feeding.

The animals are fed dry food according to the instructions provided. Dogs are fed the proper amount of food based on the size and physical condition of the animal as List in the chart below.

1. Adult Dogs of Normal Weight are fed once a day.
2. Obese or Overweight Adult Dogs are fed smaller portions twice a day.
3. Underweight Adult Dogs and Puppies are fed larger portions twice a day, or more often depending upon the circumstances.
4. Other Special Needs Dogs are fed as indicated on the kennel signage.
5. All incoming strays are fed and watered immediately, as there is no way to know when they last ate.

The amount of dry dog food recommended by Science Diet for healthy adult dogs aged 1-6 years is listed in the chart below. It is understood that the chart is a guide only and that individual variations may be indicated.

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| Weight of Dog | Amount of Food per Day |
| 5 lbs. | 1/2 to 2/3 cups |
| 10 lbs. | 3/4 to 1-1/8 cups |
| 20 lbs. | 1-1/3 to 1-3/4 cups |
| 40 lbs. | 2-1/4 to 3 cups |
| 60 lbs. | 3 to 4-1/4 cups |
| 80 lbs. | 3-3/4 to 5-1/4 cups |
| 100 lbs. | 4-1/2 to 6-1/4 cups |