

POLICY ON ANIMALS IN THE SANCTUARY AND FARMHOUSE

The only animals allowed in the Sanctuary and Farmhouse* are certified service animals, such as those that are individually trained to perform major life tasks and covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act. All others, such as emotional support animals and therapy animals, may be allowed for a limited time under extraordinary circumstances, with prior approval from the minister. In the minister's absence, the Board of Trustees may give approval.

All animals must be leashed and under the control of the owner at all times and must be housebroken.

Please note the definition of service animal doesn't include emotional support animals (ESAs) under either New York law or the ADA. Emotional support animals don't have specialized training to aid their handlers, so they don't qualify as service animals under New York law or the ADA. Although both laws require owners of public accommodations to admit service animals (including [psychiatric service dogs](#)), neither law protects your right to have your emotional support animal with you in public.

For more information on New York Laws on Service Dogs and Emotional Support Animals in Public Places, see:

- [AG NY GOV Service Animals](#)
- [NY Service Dogs / Emotional Support Animals](#)
- [Exemptions for Religious Entities](#)

*Animals may be permitted for special events with prior approval by the Board of Trustees, for example, the annual Blessing of the Animals service.