

Lost and Found Pets

If you've lost your pet, getting the word out **as quickly as possible** is the key to getting them back.

Search your neighborhood and post flyers with a current picture of your pet, your pet's name and your contact information.

Post your notices at grocery stores, veterinary offices, dog parks or any other neighborhood business and tell everyone you meet, especially joggers or your mailman, you're searching for your dog or cat. Ask them not to try and catch them but to call you if they are seen.

Contact local animal shelters to see if someone has brought your pet in and be sure to take a flyer to the shelter in the event they do:

Greene County Animal Care and Control: 937-562-7400

SICSA: 937-294-6505

Humane Society of Greater Dayton: 937-268-7387

Montgomery County Animal Resource Center: 937-898-4457

Use Social Media: If you are active on Facebook, post the information there as well as any neighborhood social media platforms.

You can also check out the following websites: **Pawboost.com** **Lostmydoggie.com** **PetFBI.org**

Note: Dogs and cats that go outside should always have a collar with a tag containing owner contact information.

If you find a lost pet:

If the pet is not wearing an ID tag, the best course of action is to either take it to your local animal shelter, if you can do so safely. The shelter staff will scan the animal for a **microchip**. If the animal is chipped, the shelter staff will be able to look up the owner's contact information by calling the microchip company or accessing the microchip database online. Although it may be tempting to keep a lost pet and try to find the owner yourself, it is absolutely essential that the animal be scanned for a microchip. The shelter is the one obvious place where owners are likely to look for lost pets. Your veterinarian may be able to assist you with this as well.

Post fliers. Whether you hold the lost animal yourself or place it in the custody of your local shelter, there are several ways you can help find the owner. If possible, take a photo of the pet and post fliers around the area where the pet was found. Be sure to also distribute the fliers to local veterinary clinics.

Use social media but exercise caution so someone doesn't claim a pet that isn't theirs (ie, ask them to identify something unique about the pet). Often times the newspaper will run a "Found" pet ad at no cost, so that might be another option.

In Greene County you can reunite a licensed dog with its proper owner by going to: **www.greenecountyohio.gov/377/Dog-License** and scroll down to the Dog Tag Search application to put in the tag number. It will pull up the owner's name and contact information.

In Montgomery County go to: **www.mcanimals.org** and click on the Lost and Found link. You can search for your lost dog, check the dog tag number for the owner, file a "lost dog" report as well as a "found dog report"