Finding a Lost Pet

In the event that your pet goes missing from your home, yard or neighborhood, here is what you can do to aid that pet’s safe return. See Contact Information for links to more information.

1. **Organize A Search Party.** As soon as possible after the animal is confirmed lost, begin searching the area where that animal was last seen. Recruit family, friends and others to help. Provide searchers the following information: time and location of the most recent sighting or your animal, a map of the area, and instructions to follow if the animal is seen or found.

2. **Contact Animal Control Organizations.** Contact PAWS (animal control for City of Woodinville), Regional Animal Services of King County (unincorporated King County) and Everett Animal Services (Snohomish County) to report a lost animal, and to check listings of Found animals at those organizations.

3. **Contact pet’s microchip company.** For most animals adopted from Homeward Pet, contact 24PetWatch to report a lost animal. Animals may have microchips registered to other companies; check your paperwork for the correct contact information.

4. **Post to Social Media.** Post on social media sites of local organizations dedicated to finding lost animals.

5. **Post Lost Animal Ad to Craigslist.** Post a free Lost Animal Ad in the Community section of Craigslist.

6. **Create and Distribute Lost Animal Flyer.** Follow instructions at Missing Pet Partnership for creating an effective Lost Animal flyer. Use the largest font possible to announce “LOST DOG” or “LOST CAT” above a picture, and write color and breed below. Include a brief description of the animal, most recent sighting and any specific medical or behavioral concerns. Include your phone number. Post flyers throughout the neighborhood and at local businesses; show or hand the flyer to people and business owners in the neighborhood where the animal was last seen.

   *Note: make sure it’s okay to post flyers to phone poles and other structures in your community.

7. **Create and Distribute Lost Animal Posters.** Follow instructions from Three Retrievers Lost Pet Rescue to create large neon signs to post at major intersections surrounding the most recent sighting of the lost animal. In the largest possible handwriting, write “LOST DOG” or “LOST CAT” at the top; and “REWARD” at the bottom. Enlarge information from your Lost Animal Flyer to tape to the middle of the poster, inside a plastic sleeve. Include your phone number and the words “DO NOT CHASE”. *Note: obey all local ordinances for posting signs and posters.

8. **Leave Food and Bedding out Overnight.** Leave a crate with animal’s bedding and food outside overnight to lure the animal to return to their home.

9. **Consider Setting Trap.** Consult with a Lost Pet Rescue or animal shelter about setting up a humane trap for your lost animal.

10. **Update and Continue Search Parties.** Keep all people and organizations involved updated with any reports of sightings of the lost animal. Organize continuing searches of

Matches Made. Lives Saved. ● (425) 488-4444 ● homewardpet.org
area. Provide searchers the following information: time and location of the most recent sighting, a map of the area, and instructions to follow if the animal is seen or found.

**Contact information:**

**Animal Control Agencies:**
PAWS (for animals lost in Woodinville) – 425-787-2500, [www.paws.org](http://www.paws.org)
Regional Animal Services of King County (unincorporated King County) – 206-296-7387, [http://www.kingcounty.gov/safety/regionalAnimalServices.aspx](http://www.kingcounty.gov/safety/regionalAnimalServices.aspx)
Everett Animal Shelter (Snohomish County) – 425-257-6000, [www.everettwa.gov/animals](http://www.everettwa.gov/animals)

**Microchip Company:**

**Social Media Sites for Lost Animals:**
Facebook – [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com), then search:
  - Lost Dogs of King County
  - Lost Dogs of Snohomish County
  - Lost & Found Pets Wa State

**Lost Animal Ad:**
Craigslist – [www.craigslist.org](http://www.craigslist.org)

**Lost/Missing Pet Rescues** (have many resources for finding a lost pet):
Three Retrievers Lost Pet Rescue – [www.3retrievers.com](http://www.3retrievers.com)

**Local Shelters** (for humane traps and other resources):
Homeward Pet Adoption Center – 425-488-4444, [www.homewardpet.org](http://www.homewardpet.org)