Finding a Missing/Lost Pet



In the event that your pet goes missing from your home, here is what you can do to aid that pet's safe return. See page 2 for missing dog recommendations and page 3 for missing cat recommendations.

Contact Animal Control Organizations to report lost/missing animal, there may be more than one Animal Control Organization to contact for your area, make sure to check the link below!

- PAWS (Animal Control for City of Woodinville), 425-787-2500 www.paws.org
- Regional Animal Services of King County (unincorporated King County), 206-296-7387, <u>https://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/regional-animal-services/lost-and-found/LOST.aspx</u>
- Everett Animal Services (Snohomish County), Everett Animal Shelter 425-257-6000, http://www.everettwa.org/default.aspx?ID=35
- For a more detailed list please see the link below: <u>Animal-Control-Services-UPDATE-2020.pdf (homewardpet.org)</u>

Contact your pet's microchip company to report lost/missing microchipped animal. If you do not know your pet's microchip number or the microchip company, we recommend calling your vet to see if they have that information in their records. Here are some of the common microchip companies and their contact information:

- 24PetWatch 866-597-2424 www.24petwatch.com
- AVID 1-800-336-2843 <u>https://avidid.com/</u>
- Home Again 1-888-466-3242 homeagain.com
- Petlink 1-877-738-5465 <u>petlink.net</u>

Here are some Additional Resources to help you find your lost pet

- Mission Reunite: non-profit that helps to reunite lost/missing pets with their family missionreunite.org
- PetCo Love Lost: lost/found pet website to help reunite lost/missing pets with their family
 <u>Petco Love Lost | Petco Love Lost</u>
- Missing Animal Response Network: a good resource on how to make lost pet posters
 <u>Neon Posters Missing Animal Response Network</u>
- Three Retrievers Lost Pet Rescue: they provide search efforts with scent-tracking dogs <u>3retrievers.com</u>
- Craigslist: another social platform to post lost/missing pet reports craigslist.org

For Lost/Missing DOGS:

1. Organize A Search Party

As soon as possible after the animal is confirmed missing or lost, recruit available helpers to search the area where the animal was last seen. This should happen immediately.

2. Create and Distribute Lost Animal Flyer

See example on page 4

Use largest font possible to announce "LOST DOG" above a picture, and COLOR/BREED below. Include a brief description of animal, where last seen and any specific medical or behavioral concerns. Post throughout neighborhood and at local businesses. It is always best to also hand out flyers to all neighbors (when possible).

3. Create and Distribute Lost Animal Posters See example on page 4

Create large neon signs to post around major intersections surrounding most recent sighting of lost animal. Use largest possible handwriting to write "LOST DOG" at the top. Enlarge information from the flyer to tape (inside of a plastic sleeve) in the middle of the neon sign. Be sure to include (in large font) the owner's phone number and email address and the words "DO NOT CHASE".

4. Post To Social Media and NextDoor (examples near Woodinville, WA)

- Lost and Found pets of Washington
- Lost and Found Pets of Snohomish County
- Lost & Found Pets of King County
- Lost and Found Pets of Pierce County, Washington
- Lost Dogs of Snohomish County #1
- Lost Dogs of King County, WA

5. Leave Food and Bedding Out Overnight

Leave a crate with animal's bedding and food outside the home overnight, to lure animal to return home.

6. Consider Setting a Humane Trap

Owner's can decide when to set up a humane trap for the lost/missing animal. If you need to borrow a humane trap please call Homeward pet (425) 488-4444 and ask if there are any available to check-out. Homeward Pet will loan out humane traps as long as we have them in stock! Homeward Pet staff can also help show you how to set the trap, what kind of bait to use, how to open the trap (to reset) and answer any other set-up questions.

7. Update and Continue Search Parties

Keep helpers updated with any reports of the lost/missing animal. If the missing pet is a dog – the owner may organize continuing searches of area, including sending single helpers out to look and put up flyers; encouraging dog-walkers to walk near where missing dog was last seen and talk to passers-by; having a search party of helpers scour area following a sighting. Provide helpers the following information: most recent sighting, map of area, and instructions to follow if they sight animal.

For Lost/Missing CATS:

1. Thoroughly Search the Home. Garage & Yard

Triple check that the cat has not hidden in a quiet dark space, up a nearby tree, in the garage, under a bush, etc. When cats escape a home they tend to not go far to hide.

2. Create and Distribute Lost Animal Flyer

See example on page 4

Use largest font possible to announce "LOST CAT" above a picture, and COLOR/BREED below. Include a brief description of animal, where last seen and any specific medical or behavioral concerns. Have helpers post throughout neighborhood and at local business. It is always best to also hand out flyers to all neighbors (when possible).

3. Create and Distribute Lost Animal Posters

See example on page 4

Create large neon signs to post around major intersections surrounding most recent sighting of lost animal. Use largest possible handwriting to write "LOST CAT" at the top. Enlarge information from the flyer to tape (inside of a plastic sleeve) in the middle of the neon sign. Be sure to include (in large font) the owner's phone number and email address and the words "DO NOT CHASE".

4. Post To Social Media and NextDoor (examples near Woodinville, WA)

- Lost and Found pets of Washington
- Lost and Found Pets of Snohomish County
- Lost & Found Pets of King County
- Lost and Found Pets of Pierce County, Washington
- Lost Cats of King County
- Lost CATS of Snohomish County

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7. For cats missing from Home

Owner's should check around their home, look up in trees, under bushes, in the garage, etc. Do this in the daytime and again at night (with a flashlight). It is sometimes easier to find cats at night because their eyes reflect a flashlight beam



Lost Animal Flyer Example



Lost Animal Poster Example