

What To Do If Your Pet Is Lost



If your pet goes missing, this information will help you get them back home. See page 2 for missing dog recommendations and page 3 for missing cat recommendations.

Contact the municipal shelter that provides services for the city where your pet went missing. If someone finds your pet, this is the shelter that the finder is most likely to contact.

- **PAWS** - 425-787-2500
paws.org/services-resources/lost-found/
Service areas: Edmonds, Kenmore, Lake Forest Park, Mountlake Terrace, Mukilteo, Shoreline, and Woodinville
- **Regional Animal Services of King County** - 206-296-7387
kingcounty.gov/en/dept/executive-services/animals-pets-pests/regional-animal-services/lost-pet
Service areas: Beaux Arts, Bellevue, Black Diamond, Carnation, Clyde Hill, Covington, Duvall, Enumclaw, Issaquah, Kenmore, Kent, Lake Forest Park, Maple Valley, Mercer Island, Newcastle, North Bend, Redmond, Sammamish, SeaTac, Shoreline, Snoqualmie, Tukwila, Woodinville, Yarrow Point, and Unincorporated areas of King County
- **Everett Animal Shelter** - 425-257-6000
everettwa.gov/171/Lost-and-Found-Pets
Service areas: Bothell, Brier, Darrington, Everett, Gold Bar, Granite Falls, Index, Kirkland, Lake Stevens, Lynnwood, Marysville, Medina, Mill Creek, Monroe, Mukilteo, Snohomish, Stanwood, Sultan, Tulalip, and Unincorporated areas of Snohomish County
- **For a more detailed list please see our Animal Control Services handout:**
https://www.homewardpet.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/AnimalControlServices_2025.pdf

If your pet is microchipped, contact the microchip company to file a report.

If you don't know which company your pet is chipped with, you can enter their chip number on this site to search multiple registries - aha.org/for-veterinary-professionals/microchip-search/. If you don't 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 more common microchip companies:

24PetWatch - 24petwatch.com
AVID - avidid.com
Home Again - homeagain.com
Petlink - petlink.net

AKC Reunite - akcreunite.org
Free Pet Chip Registry - freepetchipregistry.com
Smart Tag - idtag.com/lost-and-found-pets
Petidco - petidco.com

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
facebook.com/missionreunite/
- PetCo Love Lost: lost/found pet website to help reunite lost/missing pets with their family
petcolove.org/lost/
- Missing Animal Response Network: a good resource on how to make lost pet posters
missinganimalresponse.com/neon-posters/
- Three Retrievers Lost Pet Rescue: they provide search efforts with scent-tracking dogs
3retrievers.com

For Lost/Missing DOGS:

1. Organize A Search Party

As soon as possible after your dog is confirmed missing or lost, recruit friends or family to help you search the area where your dog was last seen. This should happen immediately. Provide helpers with the following information: location where your dog was last seen, a map of the area, and instructions to follow if they see your dog. Instruct helpers not to call your dog's name (this can scare them off or cause them to run into an unsafe situation). Instead, talk in a normal tone of voice and have high value treats ready. Use calming signals to ease your dog's stress (more on calming signals here - 3retrievers.com/calming-signals.html).

2. Create and Distribute Lost Pet Flyers

See example on page 4

Use a large font to announce "LOST DOG" above a picture and include their COLOR/BREED below. Include a brief description of your dog, where they were last seen, and any specific medical or behavioral concerns. Post throughout the neighborhood and at local businesses, and hand them out to as many neighbors as possible.

3. Create and Distribute Lost Pet Posters

See example on page 4

Create larger and brighter neon signs to post around major intersections where your dog was last seen. Use a bold marker to write "LOST DOG" in large print at the top. Enlarge the same information from the flyer and tape it in the middle of the neon sign. You can use plastic sleeves to protect the information from rain. Be sure to include (in large font) your phone number and email address and the words "DO NOT CHASE".

4. Post Your Missing Dog Online

You can share your lost pet flyer on local neighborhood sites like [Nextdoor](#) and [Craigslist](#). You can also find groups on social media sites that focus on helping lost and found pets in specific areas. Below are some examples of popular Facebook pages for pets near Woodinville and surrounding areas:

[Lost and Found Pets of Snohomish County](#)

[Lost and Found Pets of Washington](#)

[Lost and found pets in Snohomish county Washington](#)

[Lost & Found Pets of King County](#)

[Lost and Found Pets of Pierce County, Washington](#)

[Lost Dogs of Snohomish County #1](#)

[Washington State – Lost Dogs, Cats, & Pets - PawBoost](#)

[Lost Dogs of King County, WA](#)

5. Leave Food and Bedding Out Overnight

Put your dog's crate/bedding and food outside of your home overnight, to lure your dog to return home.

6. Consider Setting a Humane Trap

You can find info on when to consider using a humane trap here - 3retrievers.com/humane-trap-guidelines.html. 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 if we have them in stock. We typically only have traps for cats or small dogs. You can find traps for medium and large dogs here - trucatchtraps.com/large-animal-traps.

7. Update and Continue Search Parties

Keep helpers updated with any reports or sightings of your dog. Organize continuing searches of the area. Move search areas based on reported sightings. Continue to put up and replace flyers.

For Lost/Missing CATS:

1. **Thoroughly Search the Home, Garage & Yard**

If your cat can't be found inside the home after a thorough search, check to see if your cat has hidden nearby - up a tree, in the garage, under a bush, in a crawl space etc. When a cat escapes, they tend to stay close and find a safe place to hide. Pay close attention to any dark or quiet spaces.

2. **Avoid A Large Search Party**

Having too many people or too much noise and activity in the area where your cat went missing could scare them off and cause them to run further from home.

3. **Create and Distribute Lost Pet Flyer**

See example on page 4

Use a large font to announce "LOST CAT" above a picture and include their COLOR/BREED below. Include a brief description of your cat, where they were last seen, and any specific medical or behavioral concerns. Post throughout the neighborhood and at local businesses, and hand them out to as many neighbors as possible.

4. **Create and Distribute Lost Pet Posters**

See example on page 4

Create larger and brighter neon signs to post around major intersections where your cat was last seen. Use a bold marker to write "LOST CAT" in large print at the top. Enlarge the same information from the flyer and tape it in the middle of the neon sign. You can use plastic sleeves to protect the information from rain. Be sure to include (in large font) your phone number and email address and the words "DO NOT CHASE".

5. **Post Your Missing Cat Online**

6. You can share your lost pet flyer on local neighborhood sites like [Nextdoor](#) and [Craigslist](#). You can also find groups on social media sites that focus on helping lost and found pets in specific areas. Below are some examples of popular Facebook pages for pets near Woodinville and surrounding areas:

[Lost and Found Pets of Snohomish County](#)

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[Lost and found pets in Snohomish county Washington](#)

[Lost & Found Pets of King County](#)

[Lost and Found Pets of Pierce County, Washington](#)

[Lost CATS of Snohomish County](#)

[Washington State – Lost Dogs, Cats, & Pets - PawBoost](#)

[Lost Cats of King County](#)

7. **Leave Food and Bedding Out Overnight**

Put your cat's crate/bedding, litterbox, or food outside of your home overnight, to lure your cat to return home.

8. **Consider Setting a Humane Trap**

You can find info on when to consider using a humane trap here - 3retrievers.com/humane-trap-guidelines.html. 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 if we have them in stock.

9. **Continue To Search**

Regularly search those nearby spaces – around the home, up in trees, under bushes, in the crawl space, etc. Do this in the daytime and again at night (with a flashlight). Sometimes it's easier to find cats at night because their eyes reflect a flashlight beam. If you find your cat stuck in a tree, contact Canopy Cat Rescue - canopycatrescue.com.

10. **Visit communitycatcoalitionwa.org/lostcats/ For More Information**

The Community Cat Coalition has additional tips for finding a missing cat, and strategies may vary a bit depending on whether your cat was indoor/outdoor, indoor only, or recently introduced to a new home.

LOST CAT



Sudoku

Male / Neutered
Shorthair / Black
3 years old / 13 pounds



DO NOT CHASE

If spotted, please call 555-555-5555 or
email myaddress@email.com

Last seen June 13th at 11:30AM, near NE 177th Place and 131st Ave NE

Lost Pet Flyer Example

Lost Pet Poster Example

