

LOST & FOUND PETS

LOST A PET?

1. REPORT LOST PET TO THE LOCAL ANIMAL CONTROL WHERE THEY WENT MISSING!

2. REPORT TO MICROCHIP COMPANY

- Be sure to update your information when you report your pet lost.

3. CHECK INTERNET FOR LOST PET POSTINGS & POST FOUND PET:

- Post & Search Petco Love: lost.petcolove.org
 - Make a lost pet post, including a photo, on Petco Love Lost. This online platform uses facial recognition tools to match lost dogs to strays in animal shelters. The Maryland SPCA and other area shelters are Petco Love Lost partners.
- Post & Search Facebook (*here are a few*):
 - [Pets – Lost & Found in Maryland](#), [Lost and Found Pets Baltimore City](#), [Lost and Found Pets in Baltimore County](#)
- Post & Search local social media:
 - [Nextdoor.com](https://www.nextdoor.com)
 - Your neighborhood and adjoining neighborhood Facebook pages

OTHER HELPFUL TIPS:

- Post flyers in the area where the pet was lost (*Include picture, where pet went missing, any distinct markings and your contact information*). If you can offer a reward (*even if small*) it is helpful to write “**Reward**” on the flyer. Post flyers at local veterinarian offices and animal shelters.
- Talk to neighbors. Ask them to check their outside cameras for sightings.
- Remember dogs usually roam while cats hide.

CAT TIPS:

- Putting a litter box outside is not helpful. It could invite other cats or wildlife, which can scare your cat more. Keep your yard their ‘safe’ space to return to. Opening a window, so they can smell your home, may help.
- Cats identify people by smell. Calling to them or shaking treats (even if that works in your home) will likely not work when they are scared and hiding outside.
- Depending on cat’s personality: a cat’s average hiding period, before coming out to look for food or a way home, is 10 days–2 weeks. A more skittish and stressed cat can take longer. Do not give up!



MARYLAND SPCA

mdspca.org  410.235.8826

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FOUND A PET?

If you have found a pet, and don't want to surrender to the shelter, here are some helpful tips to help find the owners.

1. REPORT FOUND PET TO THE LOCAL ANIMAL CONTROL WHERE THEY WERE FOUND!

2. CHECK FOR MICROCHIP

- You can take the pet to your local vets' office or shelter to have them checked for a microchip.

3. CHECK INTERNET FOR LOST PET POSTINGS & POST FOUND PET:

- Post & Search Petco Love: lost.petcolove.org
 - If you find a stray dog or cat, go to the Petco Love Lost website, click 'I Found a Pet' and search reported lost pets. Once you have looked through the lost pets post the pet you found by clicking on "I found a pet". snap a picture on your phone, and upload to petcolovelost.org.
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 - Your neighborhood and conjoining neighborhood Facebook pages

OTHER HELPFUL TIPS:

- Post flyers in the area where the pet was found (*giving minimal details i.e. don't list the sex of the pet, color of collar or any distinct markings*).
- Post flyers at local veterinarian offices and animal shelters.

*** Please note that the legal stray hold in a shelter in the State of Maryland is 72 hours. After that time, stray/lost animals are eligible for any outcome the shelter deems best for the animal. If you found a pet in the city and choose to house the lost pet in your home, the legal in home stray hold in Baltimore City is 20 days after filing found report with BARCS. During this time, you must practice constant due diligence to find the animal's original owner. If you found a pet in any other county, please check with that county for their found pet policies and laws***



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