

# HELP! I Found A Lost Pet!

We have put together some resources to help reunite pets and their families. If you lost a pet or found a stray, please keep in mind that most lost pets remain close to home. Immediately hang flyers in your area, alert neighbors, and post on Facebook and other social media community pages.

## IF YOU FIND A LOST PET AND YOU WANT TO HELP REUNITE THEM WITH THE OWNER ...

**If you find a stray animal, you can take it to a vet clinic or Chicago Animal Care and Control to check for a microchip and try to find the owner. CACC is happy to assist with scanning for microchips daily between 12 p.m. - 7 p.m. without an appointment.**

Next, go to [helpinglostpets.com](http://helpinglostpets.com) to create a lost pet profile. Please consider fostering the animal to give the owner time to find the pet. Lost pets typically stay close to home so fostering them where they are found helps get pets home. In addition, you can help to find the pet's owner via social media by posting flyers ([helpinglostpets.com](http://helpinglostpets.com)) on pages like Lost Dogs Illinois, Lost Cats Illinois or other community sites. If you can't keep the pet, please email [VisitCACC@cityofchicago.org](mailto:VisitCACC@cityofchicago.org) or call 312-747-1406 with your name, phone number, and a brief description of the animal and a staff member will follow up with you.

**CATS** Most of the cats you see outside are best left where they are. Cats wandering outside are usually not far from their homes and are unlikely to be lost. A cat that is not injured, ill or in imminent danger is unlikely to need assistance. If you find a cat ill, injured, or in immediate danger, call 3-1-1 or visit [311.CHICAGO.GOV](http://311.CHICAGO.GOV). Bring the cat to CACC: 2741 S. Western Ave. (12 P.M. - 7 P.M.) [Read more here](#)

**KITTENS** When we find a litter of kittens, our good-hearted instincts tell us to jump in and help. Thankfully, human intervention is typically not required. If the kittens are not ill, injured, or in immediate danger, the best thing you can do is to leave them alone. Mother cats may leave their litters for several hours while looking for food or avoiding humans. Mom will likely return shortly, and it's critical that the kittens remain in her care as she offers the best chance for their survival. [Read more here](#)

### DOGS

- [Lost Dogs Illinois](#)
- [Helping Lost Pets](#)
- [Microchip Research](#)
- [PAWS Chicago](#)
- [Lost Dogs of America](#)
- [PetFBI](#)
- [Lost Dog Action Plan](#)

# IF YOU DECIDE TO LEAVE A LOST PET AT CHICAGO ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL...

Dogs that arrive at CACC without a tag, microchip, or other forms of identification will be available for adoption and transfer to rescue after 3 full days of viewing on [petharbor.com/chicago](http://petharbor.com/chicago) and at the shelter. Cats impounded without tags, microchip or other forms of identification will simultaneously be marketed for redemption to owner, adoption, and transfer to rescue as soon as they arrive. We strongly encourage owners to microchip and tag their pets.

To view which lost pets are at the city shelter, check the photographs at [petharbor.com/chicago](http://petharbor.com/chicago). In petharbor, click on Lost Dogs or Lost Cats and proceed through the list of animals. Animals brought into the shelter are updated at 10 minutes past each hour. If someone sees a pet resembling their lost pet, they should write down the Animal ID number. Email the Animal ID number to [VisitCACC@cityofchicago.org](mailto:VisitCACC@cityofchicago.org) or call 312-747-1406 with their name, phone number and description of the animal and a staff member will contact them with the next steps.

To redeem a lost pet, a valid photo ID and proof of ownership (vet records, purchase receipt, or pictures of the pet) must be provided. Per chapter 7-12-120 of the municipal code of the City of Chicago, the Department shall charge and collect a redemption fee of \$65.00 for the release of the animal from the Animal Control Center. This fee will include an updated rabies vaccination (if required), a microchip (if required), spay or neuter surgery (if required) and City Dog License (if required). Payment is accepted in the form of cash (exact amount required), personal check or credit/debit card.

## MORE LOST/FOUND PET RESOURCES

### **Lost Dogs Illinois**

Register your pet and create your free flyer: [helpinglostpets.com](http://helpinglostpets.com). Search and post about a dog at <https://lostdogstillinois.org/> and @LostDogsIllinois on [Facebook](#).

### **Lost Cats Illinois**

Register your pet and create your free flyer: [helpinglostpets.com](http://helpinglostpets.com). Search and post about a cat at @LostCatsIllinois on Facebook.

### **LOST312**

Text the word "LOST" to 1-855-LOST312 to get instructions on how to find a lost pet. LOST312 is offered in English and Spanish. [Lost312 YouTube Video](#)

### **Finding Rover**

This site lets you upload a photo of a lost or found pet and uses facial recognition software to match it with a database of animals. [Register your pet today with Finding Rover](#)

## **AGENCIES APPROVED TO TAKE IN STRAYS**

In addition to CACC, these agencies can take in stray animals within the city of Chicago. Please contact them directly for hours and fees.

Animal Welfare League 6224 S. Wabash Ave 773.667.0088 [www.animalwelfareleague.com](http://www.animalwelfareleague.com)

Tree House (cats only) 7225 N. Western Ave. 773.262.4000 [www.treehouseanimals.org](http://www.treehouseanimals.org)

Garrido Stray Rescue [www.garridostrayrescue.org](http://www.garridostrayrescue.org) 773.416.4111

Harmony House for Cats 2914 N. Elston Ave. 773.293.6103 [www.hhforcats.org](http://www.hhforcats.org)