

## Helping Lost Cats Find their way home:

### LOST CATS OF ILLINOIS

<https://www.facebook.com/LostCatsIllinois>

### FACEBOOK / TWITTER / INSTAGRAM

Look for your neighborhood groups and post pictures and descriptions on the group page.

*Ex: Chicago Northside Lost and Found Pets,  
Chicago Area Pet Lost and Found*

### CRAIGSLIST:

<https://chicago.craigslist.org/d/lost-found/search/laf>

Post flyers and place around neighborhood.

Talk to your neighbors and ask if they know where the cat belongs.

If you do not want the cat in your yard, do not feed it. It will find it's way home.



Chicago Animal Care & Control  
2741 S. Western Ave  
Chicago, IL 60608

Call 311 or (312) 744-5000 to report a sick, injured or nuisance cat.

## I Found A Stray Cat....Now What?

**Did you know that stray, healthy, adult cats are 13 times more likely to find their owner if left in place, rather than bringing them into the shelter?**

If the cat you found is not injured, sick or causing a nuisance, you should examine alternatives to impounding it at Chicago Animal Care and Control (CACC). The cat you found could be an indoor cat that accidentally got out in your neighborhood. If you brought it to CACC today, CACC will scan the cat to see if it has a microchip. If it has a microchip, CACC will impound the cat and contact the owner for pick-up. If the cat does not have a microchip or identifying information, and the cat is healthy in appearance, there are better alternatives to impounding the cat. See inside for tips.



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## Did you know that...?

Overall, only about 1 in 50 stray cats are ever reclaimed by an owner at a shelter.

By contrast, one study found that lost cats returned home on their own accounting for over 60% of found cats.

Feral or very fearful community or neighborhood cats do not fare well in a shelter setting. They are used to roaming free outside, and the shelter becomes a very stressful place for these cats. Stress can cause these cats to become sick or even riskier for humans to handle as they become more fearful. Therefore, it is recommended that only sick, injured or nuisance cats be impounded into a shelter.

## Sick/Injured/Nuisance Cats

- You may call 311 to report a sick/injured/nuisance cat.
- You may bring the sick/injured/nuisance cat into CACC at 2741 S. Western Ave between the hours of 12 noon to 7pm, 7days per week.

## What are some things I should consider before impounding a stray cat at CACC?

If you have only seen the cat roaming around in the neighborhood for a short time and you have been feeding it, STOP feeding the cat or it may not go home.

If you are not feeding the cat, ask your neighbors if this is their cat, put up flyers in your neighborhood and veterinary clinics, check / post on Craigslist / pet message boards and your social media neighborhood group. If the cat comes and goes, it most likely belongs to someone. If you KNOW someone has abandoned the cat, and you don't want the cat, you may try rehoming the cat.

If you have seen the cat roaming around the neighborhood for a long time, this cat is likely a "neighborhood / community cat." If you are feeding the cat, have the cat spayed / neutered and vaccinated. CACC has provided low-cost and no cost resources in this brochure. You can contact these clinics for an appointment. If you can no longer care for the cat, please see if there is someone else in the neighborhood who can take over care after the cat has been vetted.

If you do not want cats in your yard, make sure there is not a source of food, water or shelter for the cat. Talk to your neighbors to see if anyone is feeding the cat. Work with your neighbor and share this resource information to get the cat spayed/neutered and vetted. If there is a nuisance or a safety or health issue concerning the cat, contact 3-1-1 for animal control to address the matter.

## Veterinary Resources:

These partner organizations of CACC will spay / neuter / vaccinate at a low, or no cost. They also will provide education and resources on colony cat care and community cats.

### PAWS CHICAGO

3516 W. 26th St, Chicago, IL 60623

773-521-7729

[www.pawschicago.org](http://www.pawschicago.org)

### TREE HOUSE HUMANE SOCIETY

7225 N. Western Ave, Chicago, IL 60645

773-262-4000

[www.treehouseanimals.org](http://www.treehouseanimals.org)

### WHISKERS & TAILS RESCUE FOUNDATION

PO Box 221014, Chicago, IL 60622

312-883-2287

[www.whiskersandtailsfoundation.org](http://www.whiskersandtailsfoundation.org)

