

# FINDING your *Lost* Pet



*When your beloved pet strays from home, it can be a traumatic experience for both of you. Although there are no guarantees, there are things you can do that may make a difference.*



**Check the Allegany County Animal Shelter Lost & Found Facebook page.**

***Knock on doors and talk to people in the neighborhood.*** Most people walk the streets around their home and call their pet. People who knock on their neighbor's doors and ask if anyone has seen their pet instead of just calling are more likely to find it.

***Hand out flyers with your pet's picture on them and your phone number.*** Flyers need only have a clear photo of the animal and a telephone number that someone will answer or that is hooked to an answering machine. Give copies of your flyer to veterinarians, groomers, trainers and pet stores and ask them to put them up. Ask businesses that people who live in the area are likely to use to put up a copy of your flyer.



**HOURS:** Mon - Fri 11AM - 4PM Saturday 9AM - 2PM

[www.ashelterofhope.com](http://www.ashelterofhope.com)



**Call and come to the Allegany County Animal Shelter and look for yourself, at least every other day.** Calling the shelter (301-777-5930) is important. However, your pet may not yet be listed in the records at the front desk, and the way you describe your pet may not be the way the shelter describes your dog. Any animal may become dirty, matted and neglected looking very quickly. You must visit the shelter, even if your pet was wearing tags when it was lost. In Allegany County stray animals are picked up by animal control which holds them for 72 hours and then turns them over to the shelter. If someone took your pet in for a few days hoping you would knock on their door and ask about it, they might later drop your pet off at the shelter.

**Put an ad in the local paper and contact the local radio stations.** If you use social media, add it to your facebook page, send a twitter message, etc. Ask your friends and family to place it on their facebook pages. Check the Allegany County Animal Shelter facebook page, as well as, the Friends of Allegany County Animal Shelter facebook page. Lost pets are often listed on these pages.

**Contact local rescue organizations** and give them copies of your flyer. Rescue people often go through local shelters looking for animals they can help place in new homes. Ask the shelters if they know of anyone doing rescue in the area.

**Don't give up your search.** Animals that have been lost for months have been reunited with their owners.

A pet—even an indoor pet—has a better chance of being returned if she always wears a collar and an ID tag with your name, address, and telephone number. Have your pet microchipped.

**If you have lost a pet, please contact the shelter at [lost\\_shelter@ashelterofhope.com](mailto:lost_shelter@ashelterofhope.com).**



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