

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING LOST PETS IN NEW YORK CITY

As of November 1, 2010 Animal Care and Control (ACC) no longer accepts lost and found reports due to budget cuts per the New York City Health Dept which oversees the ACC. This is a terrible disservice to the taxpayers and animals of NYC. The Mayors Alliance for NYC Animals is working on something to replace this very important service. Of course, we never think we are going to lose our pets, but accidents do happen. Until this change, the first thing we would recommend was to call the ACC and make a report whether you lost or found an animal. They were the central location for this purpose. That option no longer exists. Now if your pet gets lost, you must visit the ACC. (there are 3 of them: Staten Island, Brooklyn and Manhattan) to see if your pet has been brought there. It is sad that in this day and age of animal welfare this service has been cut. Here are some suggestions for pet owners to follow if you have lost a pet:

1. Be sure to have a collar and current name tag and NYC license on your pet. That will ensure finding him/her.
2. Be sure your pet is microchipped and the information is up-to-date and correct. Call Home Again (888-466-3242) to tell them the pet is lost.
3. Call your local newspaper and place a lost pet ad. Be sure to place the ad in the online classifieds for that paper as well.
4. Place ads on Craigslist, Facebook, etc.
5. Call all the veterinarians in your area (they can be found in the phone book) and/or fax a flyer.
6. Call all local animal rescue groups to notify them about your lost pet.
7. Make flyers with a photo and contact number and post in your neighborhood and surrounding areas. Also post at bus stops and businesses
8. Check the ACC website. There is a way to place "Found" ads that your pet may be on.
9. *Do not give up!*

If you have found a pet:

1. Have the animal scanned for a microchip. All vets and shelters have scanners. Call Home Again (888-466-3242) to tell them the pet has been found.
1. Call your local newspaper and place a "found" ad. Also place an ad in the online classifieds for that paper as well.
2. Place ads on Facebook, Craigslist, etc.
3. Call all vets offices and give a description of the animal found and/or fax a flyer.
4. Place a "found" ad on the ACC website.
5. Contact local animal rescue groups to let them know you have found the animal.
6. Even if you have no other choice but to surrender the animal to the ACC, do all the above anyway. It will help reunite the pet with its owner.

Information on local ACC Shelters:

Staten Island:
3139 Veterans Rd W
Staten Island, NY 10309
(718) 984-5935
Hours: 8 am to 8 pm

Brooklyn:
2336 Linden Blvd
Brooklyn, NY 11208
718-272-7202
Hours: 8 am to 8 pm

Manhattan:
326 E. 110 St.
New York, NY 10029
212-722-4939
Hours: 8 am to 8 pm