

If you have found a lost pet, follow this checklist



Assume that the pet is owned and someone is looking for it. Even if it is thin that doesn't mean it isn't owned. You have no way of knowing how long the pet has been on the street trying to find its way back home.



Check the pet for tags. Try to call every number on every tag looking for a lead.



Take it to a local vet and check for a microchip



Walk around the area where the pet was found and ask neighbors if they recognize the animal and know the owners.



Contact your local animal control (and others in the area) and give them a description of the pet and a way to contact you.



Contact local veterinarians and emergency veterinarians. Leave a description of the pet and your contact information in case someone calls looking for the pet.



List the pet under "lost and found" on Craigslist.com



List the pet under "lost and found" on Petfinder.com



Post Found CATS on <https://www.facebook.com/lostcatsazd>



Post Found DOGS on <https://www.facebook.com/LostDogsArizona>



Make and post flyers. You can find some great tips for creating effective lost/found posters here: <http://www.missingpetpartnership.org/recovery-posters.php>



Less is more. Be sure to withhold at least one distinguishing mark of animal from your postings and flyers (gender, markings, etc.) so any person coming forward claiming to be the owner can confirm and

identify that marketing. You want to be sure you are releasing to the proper owner. Perhaps ask them to show /send a picture to prove ownership as well.



If you use any social networking sites such as Twitter, myspace, or Facebook, post a picture and description of the found pet with your contact information and ask people to pass it on.



If you have taken the pet into your home and are attempting to find the owner, but know you cannot keep it, contact Anthem Pets and other no-kill rescues and shelters and get on their waiting lists. Shelters and rescues are always full, but if you plan ahead and start contacting some groups, you will have a better chance of finding the lost pet a spot if the owner does not come forward



Please note that even if you do not have a computer or use the internet frequently, that does not mean that the person who lost the dog is the same way. The pet you found may be listed on 5 different internet sites, but if you don't check you may never find the owner. The opposite is true as well. Even if you are well versed in internet, the person who lost the pet may not have internet use and may be listing the dog in newspapers. Please use every available resource to look for the owner.