

# FINDING A LOST PET



We understand the distress families face when their beloved pet goes missing and we hope that the following tips will help reunite you with your lost loved one.

## WHAT TO DO IF YOUR PET GOES MISSING

1. Carefully search your home and make sure that your pet isn't hiding. Be sure to check any unusual places it has access to. Ask family and friends to help you search.
2. Tell the neighbours that your pet is missing. They could help you look for it or just keep an eye out. Make sure you take a recent photo to show them.
3. Walk around the neighbourhood and call your pet's name. If your dog is lost, concentrate on the areas where you usually take it on walks and any other places you have recently visited.
4. Create a 'Lost Pet' flyer and distribute it to houses and shops in your neighbourhood. The flyer should include a photo, your pet's name and what it answers to, a detailed description, when and where your pet went missing, your name and contact number, and mention a reward (if applicable).
5. If your pet is microchipped and the details are not current, contact the microchip agency and update your details immediately.

## WHO TO CONTACT

1. **Your local council:** Your pet could be at the council pound, or a member of the community could have seen it in the neighbourhood and notified the council.
2. **Animal shelters in your region and surrounding areas:** This is best done in person, as it is the only sure method of identifying your pet. If you don't find your pet at a shelter on your first visit, it will be worthwhile to visit again after a few days. To report your lost pet to RSPCA Victoria online, visit [rspcavic.org/reportlostpet](https://rspcavic.org/reportlostpet).
3. **Local vets:** Many vets have 'Lost and Found' display boards.
4. **Local papers:** You can place a notice under the 'Lost and Found' section of the local newspaper. Some local radio stations will also make announcements about lost pets.

**A list of useful contact numbers is on the reverse of this sheet.**

Remember to be persistent and keep looking. We recommend a repeat visit to your local shelter or council pound at least every six days. Legally, these facilities are only required to hold stray animals for eight days.

Frequent visits to shelters will give you the best chance of finding your lost pet.

We wish you the best of luck and hope that you are reunited with your pet soon.

## PLEASE NOTE:

- ✓ Proof of ownership may be required.
- ✓ Photo ID is required to claim an animal, and proof of registration is necessary for council pounds.

## RSPCA ANIMAL SHELTERS

### RSPCA BURWOOD EAST 9224 2222

3 Burwood Highway, Burwood East 3151

### RSPCA PENINSULA 5978 9000

1030 Robinsons Road, Pearcedale 3912

### RSPCA BALLARAT 5334 2075

1115A Gillies Street South, Ballarat 3350

### RSPCA BENDIGO 5441 2209

20 Pipers Lane, Bendigo East 3550

### RSPCA CASTLEMAINE 5472 5277

24 Langslow Street, Castlemaine 3450

### RSPCA EPPING 9408 7356

335 O'Herns Road, Epping 3076

### RSPCA PORTLAND 5523 4690

185 Darts Road, Portland 3305

### RSPCA WANGARATTA 5722 2874

1 Connell Street, Wangaratta 3677

### RSPCA WARRNAMBOOL 5561 2591

23 Braithwaite Street, Warrnambool 3280

[www.rspcavic.org/findlocalrspca](http://www.rspcavic.org/findlocalrspca)

## OTHER ANIMAL SHELTERS

### ANIMAL AID (Victorian Animal Aid Trust) 9739 0300

35 Killara Road [www.animalaid.org.au](http://www.animalaid.org.au)  
Coldstream 3770

### AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL PROTECTION SOCIETY 9798 8415

10 Homeleigh Road [www.aaps.org.au](http://www.aaps.org.au)  
Keysborough 3173

### BLUE CROSS ANIMAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA 9722 1265

26 Homestead Road [www.bluecrossanimals.org.au](http://www.bluecrossanimals.org.au)  
Wonga Park 3115

### SAVE-A-DOG SCHEME 9824 7928

36 Weir Street [www.saveadog.org.au](http://www.saveadog.org.au)  
Glen Iris 3146

### LORT SMITH ANIMAL HOSPITAL 9328 3021

24 Villiers Street [www.lortsmith.com](http://www.lortsmith.com)  
North Melbourne 3051

### LOST DOGS' HOME & CAT SHELTER 9329 2755

2 Gracie Street [www.dogshome.com](http://www.dogshome.com)  
North Melbourne 3051

### GEE LONG ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY (GAWS) 5248 2091

325 Portarlington Road [www.gaws.org.au](http://www.gaws.org.au)  
Moolap 3221

### CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF VICTORIA 9434 7155

200 Elder Street [www.catprotection.com.au](http://www.catprotection.com.au)  
Greensborough 3088

## 24-HOUR EMERGENCY VET SERVICES

Northern Suburbs (Bundoora) .....	9467 2255
Northern Suburbs (Essendon) .....	9379 0700
Eastern Suburbs (Mount Waverley) .....	9803 8122
Southern Suburbs (Highett) .....	9532 5261
Southern Suburbs (Hallam) .....	8795 7020
Southern Suburbs (Frankston) .....	9770 5555
Western Suburbs (Werribee) .....	9731 2232

## LOCAL COUNCILS

For your local council's contact details, visit [www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/localgovernment](http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/localgovernment) or phone the Victorian Government Contact Centre on 1300 366 356.



The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Victoria) is a non-government, community based charity which depends on donations and support from the public to continue its valuable work. Donate online today.

Current as of Dec 2015

[www.rspcavic.org/lostpets](http://www.rspcavic.org/lostpets)