

## **Lost and Found Pets**

### **LOOKING FOR YOUR LOST PET**

In the Morongo Basin area there are three (3) animal shelters. Please refer to the “Animal Shelters Section” of this website for locations. When you are looking for your lost pet, it is important to understand that depending on where your pet was lost, he or she could be in more than one animal shelter. Depending on where you live, we highly recommend you visit the all of the animal shelters in the area when looking for your lost pet.

### **WAYS TO FIND LOST PETS**

1. Check all of the animal shelters in the Morongo Basin area. Phone numbers and locations can be found within this website under “Animal Shelters”.
2. If your pet was wearing a current license or I.D. tag or is micro-chipped, we will make every effort possible to notify you and reunite you with your lost pet.
3. If your pet was not wearing a tag or is not micro-chipped, it is very important that you personally visit the animal shelters in the Morongo Basin area. You may have to make several visits as, every day, new dogs and cats are picked up by our animal control officers or by concerned citizens and brought into the shelters. Lost dogs and cats have been known to wander some distance. When you come to an animal shelter, be sure to ask to see all the found animals, and inquire if there are any animals being held at the local veterinarians. Ask about any injured animals that may have been taken to a private veterinarian or that were picked up sadly dead off the street.
4. The animal shelters keep a list of reported or found lost pets. Give them a description of your pet, your name, your phone number, where the pet was lost and when, etc. Add a photograph of your pet if possible.
5. Search your neighborhood, leaving the description of your pet and your name and phone number with as many people as possible. Remember to ask mail carriers and paper delivery service personnel.
6. Advertise in local newspapers and be sure to read the "Found" ads. Many community papers will allow you to post information about a "Found Pet" free of charge. For Yucca Valley, call the Hi Desert Star at 760-365-3315. Remember when reading the "Found" ads that not everyone would describe your pet the same way as you.
7. Call the local radio stations to find if they air “lost and found pets”. For the Morongo Basin area, call Z1077.7 at 760-366-8471 and KQYN at 760-362-4264.
8. Keep looking! Remember, many well-meaning people do not know it is unlawful to keep a stray animal and will not immediately take a lost pet to an animal shelter. They sometimes keep it in their yard for several weeks hoping to find the owner on their own and not realizing you are looking for your lost pet in the animal shelter that provides service to your area or city.

If you are fortunate enough to find your lost pet, be sure to attach a license and identification tag to his/her collar. Also, consider a microchip for your pet as a permanent form of identification. Call your veterinarian for costs and questions on micro-chipping today!