

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR PET ESCAPES.

The Humane Society of Harrisburg Area (HSHA) maintains files of owners searching for their pets, as well as individuals who report a found animal. Reuniting hundreds of pets with their families each year is one of the most rewarding parts of what we do. If you are adopting or fostering an animal, take clear pictures immediately. Pictures should be taken to help show all identifying features of the animal. When filing a lost report or making fliers about a lost animal, include a picture and identify what type of collar, harness, tags, etc. are on the animal. Below is a list of additional steps that should be taken if your pet escapes.

STEPS TO TAKE:

- Immediately notify the local police department. If the municipality the dog went missing in is on the border of another, contact both police departments. Inform them of the dog's description and personality.
- Contact the HSHA's Intake Center at (717)564-3320 ext. 112 or ext. 113.
- Social Media Posts – On Facebook use Find Toby in PA. This group allows owners to post pictures and descriptions of any lost or found pet.
- Craigslist – Search and post on this website's lost and found section.
- Microchip- Notify your microchip company. The company will mark their system that your dog is lost. Most veterinarians, municipal workers, and shelters have direct access to microchip companies.
- Contact local veterinary clinics, groomers, rescue organization, and boarding facilities about your lost pet.
- Call the Dog Warden/ Animal Control in your municipality or County to share detailed information about your missing pet.

Please note that most animals will run away if someone is chasing them. When placing calls to the police or posting on social media, you should advise all interested parties not to chase the animal. The best course of action is to sit, kneel, or lie on the ground and gently call to the animal. Offerings of high value food items may also work in your favor. If you're missing a dog that has canine friend, try bringing them to the area. They may be able to attract your loose dog. If it is dark outside while your animal is missing, turn on all outside lighting, place food outside of your home, along with the animal's crate, bedding, or litter pan. If you have a fenced in yard, open the gate so the missing pet has access to come back inside.



Building a Better Community for Pets & People