

## **Tips for Finding Your Lost Companion Dog**

### **Finding your lost dog:**

1. Hang posters up ALL over – especially vet offices, and take them to each local shelter - dogs can travel many miles in one day. The more posters, the better the chances of finding your dog.
2. Put a picture on the poster, as well as a clear description.
3. Call the shelters each morning or afternoon to inquire about whether they've found your dog or not.
4. Putting 'Reward' on the posters is helpful.
5. Call your Home Owners' Associations, as well as the bordering neighborhoods' - they have email hotlines that are there to help!
6. Ask neighbors and even postmen to call you if your dog is seen. Corral friends to help search!
7. Volunteers, please send your suggestions too!

### **Prevention - Consider doing the following to increase the chances of your pet finding his way back home!**

1. A collar with TAGS (the fact is, without tags they rarely make it home). Snug, but not a tight fit, in good repair, with no frayed parts or faulty buckles.  
Dogs can chew off those collars, but a microchip is \$25 (through RHS) and most vets carry them also.
2. A harness in addition to the collar, with a tag on each, is helpful.
3. Take several photographs NOW to have on hand.
4. Jot down the shelters in your city, as well as the bordering cities. You will need to call them daily. And get the fax numbers for the lost report.
5. Check the fencing in your backyard, as well as gate. Is it secure?
6. Dogs left outdoors will become bored. Rotate toys and treats and spend time with them daily.
7. Provide repair and service personnel with the information about your dogs prior to their coming to the home. Whenever possible, keep the dogs indoors--it's for their safety!

### **If you have Found a Lost or Stray Animal**

1. Call any numbers on the animals' tags, especially the veterinarian. Report immediately to the local shelter, and bordering municipal shelters. Put up posters, with picture if possible, using your cell phone as a contact number. If a caller states the animal is his/hers, please take a friend and ask the caller to meet you, bringing the animal's records, in a public place.
2. When you find that owner, please accept a big four paws up for saving a life!