



# Pet Resource Guide

The Metro Denver Animal Welfare Alliance (MDAWA) is a coalition of public and private shelters, rescues and other animal service providers committed to promoting humane care for companion animals. For more information visit [MDAWAlliance.org](http://MDAWAlliance.org).

## How to find your lost pet

1. Visit EVERY shelter. Act fast and check each shelter daily.
  - Many pets are found farther than 10 miles from where they were lost.
  - Personally look for your pet—the description you give over the phone may not match someone else's description of your pet.
  - Leave a lost pet report and current photo at all shelters you visit.
2. Notify friends and neighbors that your pet is lost.
3. Contact veterinary practices in your area. Use their "Lost and Found" bulletin boards.
4. Check "found" ads and take out a "lost" ad in newspapers.
5. Check websites such as [Craigslist.org](http://Craigslist.org), [FidoFinder.com](http://FidoFinder.com), [PetHarbor.com](http://PetHarbor.com), [NextDoor.com](http://NextDoor.com), [911ParrotAlert.com](http://911ParrotAlert.com), and the Colorado Pets Lost and Found Facebook page.
6. Post fliers in at least a 3-mile radius of where you lost your pet.
7. Leave an item of your clothing, your pet's bedding or toys, or cat's litter box outside to help guide your pet back home.
8. If your pet has been missing for more than 5 days, check pets for adoption at local shelters.
9. **Don't give up! Pets can be found months after they're lost.**

## Tips to prevent a lost pet

- Be sure your pet wears a current rabies tag, license tag and an ID tag with your address and phone numbers. Record your bird's band number.
- Make certain your address and phone numbers are on file with the veterinarian who provided your pet's most recent vaccinations.
- Contact your veterinarian to get a microchip ID for your pet, including your bird. Keep your contact information current with the microchip registry.
- Spay or neuter your pet! Sterilization eliminates an animal's reproductive instincts and decreases the chances of its straying from home.

## Why spay or neuter your pet?

By spaying/neutering, owners can help decrease the number of companion animals, especially cats, that are homeless and abandoned each year. Altered pets are also healthier and have fewer behavioral problems. For more information about spaying and neutering, including service providers, visit [MDAWAlliance.org](http://MDAWAlliance.org) or contact your veterinarian.

## Why adopt a homeless pet?

- Animal shelters have a **wide variety of pets**: cats, dogs, rabbits, guinea pigs,

birds and others; young, middle-aged and mature; large and small; active and mellow.

- Rescue groups have **specific breeds** of dogs and cats available through a network of foster homes.
- Many shelters and rescue groups screen animals for sound health and temperament and keep histories on the strays and relinquished pets in their care—a big help in making **appropriate placements**.
- Homeless pets are often **housetrained and well behaved**; all are eager for love in lifelong homes.
- Some shelters and rescue groups provide **socialization and training** for pets prior to placement, as well as adoption counseling and free follow-up assistance.
- Adoption **fees often include spaying or neutering**, a microchip identification implant and vaccinations.
- **Free post-adoption health exams** are provided by certain members of the Colorado Veterinary Medical Association. Ask the shelter for more information.

Visit our website to learn more:



## MDAWA Members & Partners (not shown on the map)

**Animal Assistance Foundation**  
[aaf-fd.org](http://aaf-fd.org)

**Animal Welfare Association of Colorado**  
[awac.net](http://awac.net)

**Colorado Pet Overpopulation Fund**  
[coloradopetfund.org](http://coloradopetfund.org)

**Colorado Pet Pantry (pet food banks)**  
[coloradopetpantry.org](http://coloradopetpantry.org)

**Colorado Veterinary Medical Association**  
[colovma.org/find-a-vet](http://colovma.org/find-a-vet)

**Colorado Voters for Animals**  
[covotersforanimals.org](http://covotersforanimals.org)

**Community College of Denver Veterinary Technology Program**  
[ccd.edu/vet](http://ccd.edu/vet)

**Forgotten Felines Rescue\***  
[forgottenfelinesdenver.org](http://forgottenfelinesdenver.org)

**Freedom Service Dogs**  
[freedom servicedogs.org](http://freedom servicedogs.org)

**KarmaSue (pet cancer support)**  
[karmasue.org](http://karmasue.org)

**Metro Denver CAT – S/N**  
[denvercats.org](http://denvercats.org)

**National Mill Dog Rescue\***  
[milldogrescue.org](http://milldogrescue.org)

**PawsCO\***  
[pawSCO.org](http://pawSCO.org)

**Rocky Mountain House Rabbit Rescue\***  
[rmhrr.org](http://rmhrr.org)

**Safe Harbor Lab Rescue\***  
[safeharborlabrescue.org](http://safeharborlabrescue.org)



**Socially Conscious Animal Community.**

A Socially Conscious Animal Community's fundamental goal is to create best outcomes for all animals. Visit [scsheltering.org](http://scsheltering.org).

\*Adoptions by appointment—see website.

