

## Help Us Get Your Pet Home... Pet Identification Methods for Safety

Millions of companion animals enter animal shelters nationwide every year. Of these, only two percent of cats and 15-20% of dogs are reunited with their owners. Responsible pet owners need to use one or more of the following pet identification methods to ensure the safe return of their pets should they become lost:

### Collars and Identification (ID) Tags

Collars and tags are a reliable way to identify your pet should they become lost. Make sure your dog or cat always wears a collar with a current identification tag. Pet supply catalogs and stores, veterinary offices, and animal shelters often have forms to order ID tags. Please see the order form on the back page of this newsletter.

### Microchip Identification System

Microchipping involves implanting a tiny capsule under the pet's skin, in mammals, usually between the shoulder blades. Microchips can be used on dogs, cats, ferrets, birds, and other companion pets. The tiny chip is about the size of a grain of rice. The owner then sends the information to a registering agency along with current contact and alternate contact information in the event the pet becomes lost. When a pet is found, any agency with a scanner, including many animal care and control agencies, veterinary clinics, and research labs, can quickly identify a code that links the animal to its owner through a national database. Talk to your veterinarian for more information.

### Tattoo Identification System

Tattooing is a permanent ID system that involves marking a code on the skin of the pet. A tattoo is placed in the pet's ear, abdomen, or on the inside of the pet's thigh. The finder of the lost pet calls a national database that uses the code to obtain the owner's current address and phone number. Each registry has its own coding system. This is an invaluable form of identification should a pet be stolen for research, since laboratories will instantly know the animal is not abandoned but a beloved pet. To look for a tattoo on the abdomen or thigh, lay the dog on her side. One person may stroke and calm the dog while the other gently lifts the dog's hind leg to examine the belly and thigh. Sometimes, the tattoo may be difficult to read, and it is often necessary to clip away the hair. If you have difficulty reading a tattoo, contact your veterinarian.

### Other recommendations:

- All cats and dogs need to wear collars with city or county licenses where required by law, and up-to-date rabies vaccination tags. Personal ID tags are essential backups.
- Keep your cats indoors and tagged. Many stray cats that end up at shelters are indoor cats that have slipped past an open door or slipped out of an open window.
- Keep an up-to-date file with a written description of your pet that includes their size, markings, weight, and unusual features. Keep a current photo on file to use for posters or to take to the animal shelter should your pet become lost.

Our newsletter goes out to seventy-four members each month. We also have lots of people on our mailing list who are not members, but are interested in being updated about our programs and events. The Humane Society spends approximately \$50 each month to send out a newsletter. While this is beneficial to our pets up for adoption, and helps to keep our supporters "in the know", this means that it will cost us about \$600 each year for postage. What can you do to help? Become a member! Membership dues are only \$15 a year for a single person, or \$25 a year for an entire family. This will help us keep our mailing costs under control, and will allow us to reach as many people as we can, which will in turn help us get more animals adopted. Please send in the form on the back page to join the Humane Society!

# Top Ten Cold Weather Tips

Brrrr...it's cold outside! The following guidelines will help you protect your companion animals when the mercury dips.

1. Keep your cat inside. Outdoors, felines can freeze, become lost or be stolen, injured or killed. Cats who are allowed to stray are exposed to infectious diseases, including rabies, from other cats, dogs and wildlife.
2. During the winter, outdoor cats sometimes sleep under the hoods of cars. When the motor is started, the cat can be injured or killed by the fan belt. If there are outdoor cats in your area, bang loudly on the car hood before starting the engine to give the cat a chance to escape.
3. Never let your dog off the leash on snow or ice, especially during a snowstorm—dogs can lose their scent and easily become lost. More dogs are lost during the winter than during any other season, so make sure yours always wears ID tags.
4. Thoroughly wipe off your dog's legs and stomach when he comes in out of the sleet, snow or ice. He can ingest salt, antifreeze or other potentially dangerous chemicals while licking his paws, and his paw pads may also bleed from snow or encrusted ice.
5. Never shave your dog down to the skin in winter, as a longer coat will provide more warmth. When you bathe your dog in the colder months, be sure to completely dry him before taking him out for a walk. Own a short-haired breed? Consider getting him a coat or sweater with a high collar or turtle-neck with coverage from the base of the tail to the belly. For many dogs, this is regulation winter wear.
6. Never leave your dog or cat alone in a car during cold weather. A car can act as a refrigerator in the winter, holding in the cold and causing the animal to freeze to death.
7. Puppies do not tolerate the cold as well as adult dogs, and may be difficult to housebreak during the winter. If your puppy appears to be sensitive to the weather, you may opt to paper-train him inside. If your dog is sensitive to the cold due to age, illness or breed type, take him outdoors only to relieve himself.
8. Does your dog spend a lot of time engaged in outdoor activities? Increase his supply of food, particularly protein, to keep him—and his fur—in tip-top shape.
9. Like coolant, antifreeze is a lethal poison for dogs and cats. Be sure to thoroughly clean up any spills from your vehicle, and consider using products that contain propylene glycol rather than ethylene glycol.
10. Make sure your companion animal has a warm place to sleep, off the floor and away from all drafts. A cozy dog or cat bed with a warm blanket or pillow is perfect.

## Fundraising News...



We want to thank everyone so much for all your support with our fundraisers over the last few months. We were able to raise over \$1,700 at this year's rummage sale—the most ever! Sales of our Pawsitively Fabulous Calendars helped us raise over \$1,100. And helping Santa gather information for his letters earned us just over \$400.

# SPOTLIGHT ON:



**#296 Theo-Sponsored**  
**Domestic Short Hair-gray**

"Boy oh boy-Am I a lucky boy! I almost got squashed underneath a big SUV at Save A Lot. A nice lady saw me and was able to stop the driver just in time. That's when I came out to the shelter. I have a lot less room to play, but I'm safe here, and I have plenty of food and water. Gosh, I love to play! I'm a real sweet kitty and I'd love to go home with you!" Thank you to an anonymous donor, who sponsored a portion of Theo's adoption fee. Now he can go home at a reduced rate!

**#47 Buster-Sponsored**

**Boxer,Beagle**

"Ruff! Ruff! Ruff! Don't I just sound vicious? Okay, I know I don't. But I like to pretend anyway. There's this big lady lab in the kennel next to me and I try to scare her, but she just looks at me like I'm silly. Is it that obvious that I'm a little baby? I've been here since November 22nd, when they picked me up over on Secretariat Drive. I'm only about four months old and I'm looking forward to meeting my new humans." Thank you to Gail Covington, who sponsored a portion of Theo's adoption fee. Now he can go home at a reduced rate!



**#211 Daisy-Declawed and Sponsored**  
**Domestic Short Hair-black**

"Oh, boy, I don't like it here! What happened to my home? To my family? They left me here and said they were moving and I couldn't go. But I wanted to! Somebody please come rescue me. I promise I'll be good! I'm declawed in the front so I won't tear up your furniture, and I'm housetrained so I won't mess on your carpets. So what are you waiting for?" Thank you to Dr. Dana Dahlen, who sponsored a portion of Theo's adoption fee. Now she can go home at a reduced rate!

**#43 Sabrina-Sponsored**  
**Yellow Labrador Retriever**

"Hi. My name's Sabrina. I have to apologize for my pictures. I wasn't really in the mood to pose today. I was so glad to have had some company that I just really wanted somebody to snuggle with. I came here on November 19th, after somebody called the shelter and said they had found me over on Indian Trail. I'm only about a year and a half old and I'm really hoping somebody will come out here and take me home." Thank you to Gail Covington, who sponsored a portion of Sabrina's adoption fee. Now she can go home at a reduced rate!



**Anderson Humane Society**  
**1410 Versailles Road**  
**Lawrenceburg, KY 40342**

**Phone (502) 839-6410**  
**E-Mail: ahs\_40342@yahoo.com**  
**web: www.andersonky.petfinder.com**

Love Your Pets ID Tag Order Form

Pricing:  
 One tag - \$3.95  
 More than one tag - \$3.50/each

Shipping:  
 One tag - \$1.50  
 More than one tag - \$2.00 total  
 (no matter how many you order!)

Mail Form To:  
 Love Your Pets  
 707 Main, P.O. Box 517  
 Lebanon, Oregon 97355

**Anderson Humane Society**  
**Membership Application**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Level (check one)

Single	\$15
Family	\$25
Business	\$75
Angel	\$150
Humanitarian	\$500

Volunteer Services (check all that apply)

Member/Patron \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fundraising and Education \_\_\_\_\_  
 Administrative \_\_\_\_\_  
 Satellite Adoption Program \_\_\_\_\_  
 Walking Pets at the Shelter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Foster Home Program \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

All volunteers for services at the shelter or satellite adoption program must be at least 18 years of age or accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Tag #1:

Shape (check one)  Bone  Heart  Circle   
 Material (check one)  Brass  Red Plastic  Stainless Steel   
 Pet's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Owner's Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Tag #2:

Shape (check one)  Bone  Heart  Circle   
 Material (check one)  Brass  Red Plastic  Stainless Steel   
 Pet's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Owner's Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Information:

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The Anderson Humane Society thanks you for protecting your pet by ensuring that it is wearing an identification tag!  
[www.andersonky.petfinder.com](http://www.andersonky.petfinder.com)