

Lost Dog Recovery Plan

Immediately Make a Flyer

Include:

- Good photo of head and body
- Accurate description of dog, dog's collar, possible tags, if the dog is micro-chipped
- Clear and accurate contact information
- Reward, if one is being offered

Fax or Email Flyer and Other Information

Send to:

- All area vets within a 4 mile radius to begin
- All possible animal shelters and local animal control officials - **Visit shelters at least every other day!**
- Animal rescue organizations
- Family and friends, whether in the area or not - they may know someone who knows someone
- Potential volunteers to search and post flyers

Distribute Flyers

- Making black and white copies of your flyer at Kinko's or a similar business is most cost effective
- Use brightly colored paper to be most noticeable
- Print at least 100 and be liberal posting and handing them out
- Remind volunteers to take both tape and thumb tacks with them

- Post flyers where many people will see them (e.g., espresso stands, gas stations, laundromats, mailbox clusters)
- Post flyers where people buy dog food and supplies (e.g., pet food stores, grocery stores, Grange Supply)
- Hand out flyers to people (neighbors in the area where the dog was last seen, people walking, riding bikes)
- Place flyers on windshields of cars parked in the area

- For a small dog (under 20 pounds) start by thoroughly covering a one mile radius
- Project out further based on the dog's size, breed, and condition

Communication

Searchers need to cover as much area as possible without repeating efforts. Time is of the essence!

- Create a phone list of searchers, also include their email addresses to keep everyone updated on the progress
- Use cell phones to stay in contact with and report sightings of the dog to fellow searchers
- Create, distribute to volunteers, keep updated - map covering a 2 mile radius from where dog was last seen to:
 - ⇒ Track areas where flyers have been posted
 - ⇒ Identify where the dog is reported to have been seen
 - ⇒ Communicate where flyers have been placed

When Dog Has Been Sighted

Concentrate flyer distribution in the immediate area

- Distribute flyers door to door
- Ask people to call if they spot the dog

Leave the following items in the vicinity:

- Fragrant, irresistible food
- Owner or familiar person's socks, piece of clothing
- Water/dish
- Open crate with blanket inside

When YOU See the Dog

Remember, the dog may be extremely frightened

- Immediately summon a person the dog knows and trusts
- Crouch low and move slowly, if at all
- Speak calmly and quietly
- Offer food from a distance and wait

Staying calm and relaxed in the dog's presence is critical.