



This fact sheet provides useful tips when searching for a lost pet. Contacting local animal shelters and pounds is the first step.

PLEASE NOTE:

Many people who find lost pets may not hand them into local council or animal shelters immediately. It may take them a few weeks or even a few months.

Therefore, you should continue to contact pounds and animal shelters weekly for at least three months.



TIP:

A letter box drop is particularly useful for finding lost cats.

CONTACT LOCAL ANIMAL SHELTERS AND POUNDS

Due to the large number of dogs and cats at pounds and animal shelters like The Lost Dogs' Home, we strongly recommend that you contact the Home and other shelters and pounds if you have lost your pet.

It is also possible that your pet will be taken to an animal shelter by a member of the public. This is another reason you should keep in touch with shelters and pounds.

CHECK LOCAL AND SURROUNDING COUNCILS

Check the area where your pet was lost. Phone your local council and ask where animals are taken when collected by local council rangers. Councils either have their own holding pens or they use a major animal shelter as their pound. Ask for the contact details so you can get in touch with the shelter or pound to check if your pet is there.

CONDUCT A NEIGHBOURHOOD SEARCH

Conduct a thorough and wide search of the area around where your pet was last seen.

Your search should include:

- Door knocking
- A letter box drop
- Posting flyers in prominent places (for example; shop windows, trees, power poles etc.)

Information to include on a flyer:

- A photograph of your pet
- Detailed description of your pet including name, age, breed colour, sex and any distinguishing characteristics
- The date it went missing
- The area it went missing in
- Your name and contact number/s

OTHER SUGGESTED METHODS OF ENQUIRY

Vet Clinics

Check the locality guide in the yellow pages or online and phone all local vets to check if your pet has been taken there.

Newspapers

Advertise and check in all local and major newspapers.

Online

Many shelters have websites that detail pets that have been lost/ found. Also there are groups on Facebook which post lost/found animals.

Remember: Collars and tags can come off or may be removed deliberately. You should contact shelters and pounds as many animals are impounded with their ID missing.

MICROCHIPPING

Microchipping is normally a reliable and permanent form of identification for your pet. Staff at pounds and shelters make every effort to check all strays admitted for microchip identification.

By law, all cats and dogs must be microchipped before being sold. This includes sales from registered breeders, animal shelters, pet shops and private homes. This is not for animals that are advertised as 'free to a good home'. The Lost Dogs' Home offers a microchipping service.

All council pounds and animal shelters have microchip scanning equipment. You should ensure your contact details are always kept up to date with your microchip agency.

Occasionally, microchips can move around the animal's body and might not always be picked up by a scanner.

If your pet is microchipped, you should have your pet regularly checked to see if the chip can be properly scanned.

Remember: The 'Φ' symbol in the ear indicates that the animal has been desexed, and should not be mistaken for a unique form of identification. It is important to note, that tattoos do fade over time and are sometimes difficult to read.

| Point of Contact | Contact Details | Melways Ref | For more details and opening hours |
|---|--|----------------|---|
| The Lost Dogs' Home 2 Gracie Street, North Melbourne, VIC | T: 03 9329 2755 F: 03 9326 5293 E: info@dogshome.com | 2A C7 43 B4 | https://dogshome.com/contact-us/ |
| The Lost Dogs' Home Cranbourne 920 Thompsons Road, Cranbourne West | T: 03 9702 8055 E: info@dogshome.com | 128 K8 | https://dogshome.com/contact-us/ |
| Lort Smith Animal Hospital 24 Villiers Street, North Melbourne, VIC | T: 03 9328 3021 | 43 E4 | https://lortsmith.com/contact-us/ |
| RSPCA Victoria - Burwood 3 Burwood Highway, Burwood East, VIC | T: 03 9224 2222 | 61 G6 | https://rspcavic.org/contact-us/ |
| RSPCA Epping Animal Welfare Facility 20 Companion Place, Epping, VIC | T: 03 8401 6600 | 180 K9 | https://www.rspcavic.org/contact-us |
| Australian Animal Protection Society 26 Aegean Court, Keysborough, VIC | T: 03 9798 8415 | 94 G7 | https://aaps.org.au/contact/ |
| Blue Cross Animals Society 26 Homestead Road, Wonga Park, VIC | T: 03 9722 1265 | 24 J12 | http://bluecrossanimals.org.au/contact-us/ |
| Animal Aid 35 Killara Road, Coldstream, VIC | T: 03 9739 0300 | 281 F7 | https://animalaid.org.au/contact-us/ |
| RSPCA Victoria - Peninsula 1030 Robinsons Road, Pearcedale, VIC | T: 03 5978 9000 | 141 C3 | https://www.rspcavic.org/contact-us |
| Geelong Animal Welfare Society 325 Portarlington Road, Moolap, VIC | T: 03 5248 2091 | 20 G4 | https://www.qaws.org.au/page/81/contact-us |
| Cat Protection Society 200 Elder Street, Greensborough, VIC | T: 03 8457 6500 | 20 J6 | https://www.catprotection.com.au/contact-us/ |

| Council | | Pound | | Bordering Councils |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Banyule | T: 03 9490 4222 | Nillumbik Pound | T: 03 9433 3111 | |
| Bayside | T: 03 9599 4444 | LDH Cranbourne | T: 03 9702 8055 | |
| Boroondara | T: 03 9278 4444 | RSPCA | T: 03 9224 2222 | |
| Brimbank | T: 03 9249 4000 | LDH North Melbourne | T: 03 9329 2755 | Melton, Maribyrnong, Moonee Valley, Hume, Hobsons Bay |
| Cardinia | T: 1300 787 624 | LDH Cranbourne | T: 03 9702 8055 | |
| Casey | T: 03 9705 5200 | LDH Cranbourne | T: 03 9702 8055 | |
| Dandenong | T: 03 8571 1000 | LDH Cranbourne | T: 03 9702 8055 | |
| Darebin | T: 03 8470 8888 | Epping Animal Facility | T: 03 9329 2755 | Moreland, Whittlesea, Banyule, Yarra, Boroondara |
| Frankston | T: 03 9748 1888 | LDH Cranbourne | T: 03 9702 8055 | |
| Glen Eira | T: 03 9524 3333 | RSPCA | T: 03 9224 2222 | |
| Hobsons Bay | T: 03 9932 1000 | LDH North Melbourne | T: 03 9329 2755 | Maribyrnong, Wyndham, Brimbank, Melbourne |
| Hume | T: 03 9205 2200 | LDH North Melbourne | T: 03 9329 2755 | Melton, Moreland, Brimbank, Whittlesea, Mitchell Shire, Macedon |
| Kingston | T: 1300 653 356 | LDH Cranbourne | T: 03 9702 8055 | |
| Knox | T: 03 9298 8000 | RSPCA | T: 03 9224 2222 | |
| Macedon Ranges | T: 03 5422 0333 | LDH North Melbourne | T: 03 9329 2755 | Mitchell Shire, Hume, Mt Alexander, Hepburn, Moorabool |
| Manningham | T: 03 9840 9333 | Manningham Pound | T: 03 9840 9333 | |
| Maribyrnong | T: 03 9688 0200 | LDH North Melbourne | T: 03 9329 2755 | Wyndham, Melton, Moonee Valley, Hobsons Bay, Brimbank, Melbourne |
| Maroondah | T: 03 9298 4598 | Victorian Animal Aid | T: 03 9739 0300 | |
| Melbourne City | T: 03 9658 9658 | LDH North Melbourne | T: 03 9329 2755 | |
| Melton | T: 03 9747 7200 | Melton Pound | T: 03 9747 7200 | |
| Monash | T: 03 9518 3555 | RSPCA | T: 03 9224 2222 | |
| Moonee Valley | T: 03 9243 8888 | LDH North Melbourne | T: 03 9329 2755 | Brimbank, Maribyrnong, Moreland, Melbourne |
| Moreland | T: 03 9240 1111 | Epping Animal Facility | T: 03 9329 2755 | Darebin, Yarra, Hume, Moonee Valley, Melbourne |
| Nillumbik | T: 03 9433 3111 | Nillumbik Pound | T: 03 9433 3111 | |
| Port Phillip | T: 03 9209 6666 | LDH North Melbourne | T: 03 9329 2755 | Melbourne, Bayside, Stonnington, Glen Eira |
| Stonnington | T: 03 8290 1333 | Stonnington Pound | T: 03 9824 7928 | |
| Whitehorse | T: 03 9262 6333 | RSPCA | T: 03 9224 2222 | |
| Whittlesea | T: 03 9217 2170 | RSPCA Epping | T: 03 9408 7356 | |
| Wyndham | T: 03 9742 0777 | LDH North Melbourne | T: 03 9329 2755 | Hobsons Bay, Greater Geelong, Melton, Brimbank, Moorabool |
| Yarra | T: 03 9205 5555 | LDH North Melbourne | T: 03 9329 2755 | Darebin, Melbourne, Moreland, Boroondara, Stonnington |
| Yarra Ranges | T: 1300 368 333 | Victorian Animal Aid | T: 03 9739 0300 | |

2 Gracie Street
North Melbourne VIC 3051
Phone 03 9329 2755

920 Thompsons Rd
Cranbourne VIC 3977
Phone 03 9702 8055

Web www.dogshome.com
Email info@dogshome.com
Facebook [lostdogshome](https://www.facebook.com/lostdogshome)
Twitter [lostdogshome](https://twitter.com/lostdogshome)
Insta [@lostdogshome](https://www.instagram.com/lostdogshome)



Since our official opening in 1913, we have been a voice for animals without owners caring for thousands of cats and dogs each year. Pioneers for fair animal laws, we continue to work on the front line to reduce the number of lost, abandoned and stray cats and dogs.

We rely on public support to run services and programs, including: proactive adoption, foster care, behaviour rehabilitation, low cost desexing and microchipping, and the promotion of better pet ownership through education.