



Lost your pet in the Wichita area? Take these steps **immediately**:

- 1. Go to Wichita Animal Services (3303 N. Hillside St., Wichita, KS 67219).**
State law requires a three-day stray hold for animals at the shelter. If an animal is not claimed in that time frame, it can legally be euthanized. Go to the shelter at least once every three days to look for your lost pet. Do NOT rely on the shelter's website or on phone calls to the shelter – these can be helpful, but they aren't always reliable or accurate. YOU know your pet better than anyone else, and you will be the best person to recognize them in person at the shelter.
- 2. Advertise your lost pet on social media.**
Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and other forms of social media can be exceptionally useful tools in reuniting people with their lost pets. Post your pet often, and make your posts public and shareable. Include photographs, detailed descriptions (physical and behavioral), and the last location your pet was seen.
- 3. Look for AND post your dog on helpful websites.**
www.24petconnect.com
www.pawboost.com
www.craigslist.org
www.nextdoor.com
www.facebook.com (Wichita Area Lost and Found Pets page)
- 4. Check with other facilities.**
If your pet is sick/injured, a good samaritan may have taken it to the Veterinary Emergency Specialty Hospital. Call (316) 262-5321 to ask if your pet has been taken there.
If you are in a smaller city outside of Wichita, check with your local city hall and/or veterinary clinic, as they may have holding areas for stray animals.
- 5. Use word-of-mouth.**
Ask your neighbors, delivery drivers, and mail carriers to be on the lookout for your pet. Post flyers with your pet's photos, description, and your contact information on utility poles and bulletin boards.

Found a pet in the Wichita area? Take these steps **immediately**:

- 1. Advertise the pet on social media and the websites listed above.**
Odds are very good that the pet's worried family will be scouring Facebook, Nextdoor, PawBoost, etc. to find their lost family member. Include photographs, a physical description, and the location found. If someone claims an animal is theirs, request that they provide proof before turning the animal over to them (veterinary records or pictures of the pet).
- 2. Have the animal scanned for a microchip.**
Any animal shelter or vet clinic can scan for a microchip. Many rescue organizations, including Kansas K-9 ResQ, also have microchip scanners. There is a microchip scanning station outside of the Wichita Animal Shelter that can be used 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Make sure to scan the pet's entire body as microchips can shift over time.
- 3. Post the pet's photo on the Wichita Animal Shelter's bulletin board.**
- 4. If you cannot keep the animal while searching for its owner, take it to Wichita Animal Services.**
Owners should be searching local shelters to find their pet. It can be hard and sad to drop an animal off at the shelter, but owners of lost pets will look there and will be relieved to be reunited with their pet.

Kansas K-9 ResQ often gets requests to take stray dogs. We cannot legally take a stray dog without first giving the owner the opportunity to claim it. That means the dog must first serve a three day hold at the Wichita Animal Shelter, during which time the owner may claim it. That said, if you have found a stray dog and we have an available foster home, we may be able to help by first checking it into the shelter with a “rescue hold,” which would allow us to claim the dog – without risk of euthanasia – if the owner does not claim it after three days.