

## Visit Shelters

- Visit the SVACA Animal Care Center located at 3370 Thomas Road in Santa Clara which services Campbell, Monte Sereno, Mountain View and Santa Clara.
- You should come in person because only you can identify your animal.
- Look through found animal files, all the holding areas, and ask to see any injured or sick animals.
- Check our “Virtual Shelter” from your home computer. Please do not rely solely on the website photos as picture quality can vary. Animals are often hard to distinguish from one another, especially solid-colored animals who often look alike.
- Fill out a “Lost Animal” report. Try to check at least every other day—your animal may not be found for several weeks.
- Visit all the shelters in neighboring communities.

### San Jose Animal Services

2750 Monterey Rd., San Jose, 408-794-7297

### San Martin Animal Shelter

12370 Murphy Ave., San Martin, 408-465-2920

### Humane Society Silicon Valley (Sunnyvale)

901 Ames Ave, Milpitas, 408-626-2133

### Palo Alto Animal Services

3281 E. Bayshore Rd., Palo Alto; 650-496-5971



## WANT TO HELP THE ANIMALS OF OUR COMMUNITY?

**Please consider donating to the Animal Assistance Fund which allows for the rehabilitation of sick animals that may otherwise not receive a second chance. For more information please contact 408-764-0344 or visit [www.svaca.com](http://www.svaca.com).**

Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority  
Animal Care Center  
3370 Thomas Road  
Santa Clara, CA 95054

Phone: 408.764.0344  
Fax: 408.988.5411  
[www.svaca.com](http://www.svaca.com)



# What To Do If You Have Lost Your Companion Animal

Silicon Valley  
Animal Control Authority  
Animal Care Center

3370 Thomas Road  
Santa Clara, CA 95054  
408-764-0344  
[www.svaca.com](http://www.svaca.com)

Campbell  
Monte Sereno  
Mountain View  
Santa Clara

**Losing your companion animal can be distressing. But don't lose heart. Stay calm and follow the steps listed below to help you find your animal.**

### **Conduct a Search**

- Talk to your neighbors, especially the children who play in your neighborhood. Go door to door. Leave your name, address and telephone number plus a complete description of your animal.
- Search in the evenings when it's quiet. Call or whistle. If your animal is injured or frightened, he may be hiding. Drive slowly around your neighborhood; sometimes a dog will recognize the sound of your car.
- Leave out their favorite bed, toys and food to hopefully attract them back to your home.

### **Advertise in Newspapers**

- Place an advertisement in local newspapers and check the Found Pet ads also.

### **Post Signs/Flyers**

- Obtain a flyer from SVACA that can be used to alert people about your lost animal.
- Place copies of the flyer within a twenty block radius of where the animal was lost.
- Post flyer copies in local vet offices, pet stores, shelters, grooming salons, etc.
- Be sure to observe all laws regarding the legal posting of flyers.

**Remember, don't get discouraged. It may take you several weeks to find your companion. Don't give up!!**

### **How to Complete the Flyer**

#### **Photo**

- A black and white photo will reproduce better than a color one. If you don't have a photo, try to get a picture from a breed book to give people a rough idea of what your animal looks like.

#### **Description**

- If your animal is an unusual breed, or a mutt, you should write the breed the animal looks like most (e.g., looks like Labrador-type dog, looks like short hair Siamese). Never write "mutt" or "mongrel" for a dog. Ordinary cats can be described best as "domestic short hair," "domestic long hair," etc.
- Only the main colors of the animal should be included.
- Don't try to be too descriptive; you want anyone who thinks they may have seen your animal to call you.

#### **Tabs**

- Fill in your name and phone number on each of the small tabs at the bottom. Cut the tabs on the lines, so that if someone has seen your animal, he or she can easily tear off the tab with your name and number.

**Consider getting your animal microchipped as an extra precaution. Even if your animal does have a microchip, keep an ID tag on your animal's collar too. Private citizens and many rescue groups do not have microchip scanners. An ID tag on the collar makes it easy for anyone to contact you.**

### **If Someone Calls You About Your Animal**

- Try to get a positive identification on your animal from any caller. Have specific details in mind (a scar or peculiar feature) that will identify your animal from a similar one.
- Do not put all details on your sign. There are extortionists who will claim to have your animal.
- Think of a special question that only someone with your animal will be able to answer.
- If you offer a reward, make sure you have your animal before you turn over the money.

### **Prevention Tips**

- Spay and Neuter your pets.
- Keep a collar with a license and updated ID tag on your animal at all times.
- Keep pets indoor or in a securely fenced yard.
- Keep a current photo of your pet.
- Enroll in a training class with your pet.
- Hire a pet sitter.